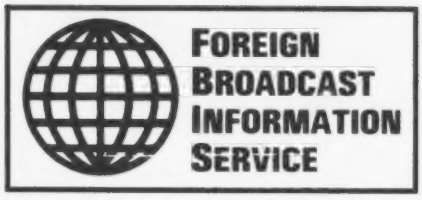

Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-197
Wednesday
12 October 1988

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-197 *12 October 1988*

CONTENTS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

NATO, Pact Officials Meet on Mandate Talks 1
PRAVDA on Importance of Reykjavik Summit *[Kolesnichenko, 11 Oct]* 1
Military Observer on Arms Talks Issues *[Golts in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Oct]* 2
Chernyshev on Test Ban Treaty Anniversary *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Oct]* 4

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

CEMA Executive Session Concludes in Moscow 5
Secretariat Head on EEC Ties 5
Committee Session Ends 11 Oct 5
Sychev on Results of Meeting 6
Need for 'Radical' Change *[Budapest MTI]* 6
Polish Delegate on Session *[Warsaw PAP]* 6
Bloc Military Publishers Meet in Bulgaria *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Oct]* 7

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Gerasimov Holds Foreign Ministry Press Briefing 8
Comments on Soviet-Somali Ties 8
Notes Significance of Reykjavik 8
On Paris Talks, Vranitzky Visit 8
Reviews Afghan Situation 9
Petrovskiy Attends Conference on Global Security 9
PRAVDA on UN Economic Committee Debate *[8 Oct]* 10
Primakov Lauds Outcome of Vladivostok Forum *[PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 10
Vladivostok Meeting, Cambodian Issue Viewed *[Solton]* 12
Bloc Academics Discuss Renewal of Socialism *[PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 13

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Chernyshev on Taft Remarks at Rome News Briefing 14
Foreign Ministry 'Expert' Cited *[Vorobev]* 14
U.S. Officials 'Sweep Aside' Krasnoyarsk Ideas *[Golts in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Oct]* 15
Matveyev Rebuts U.S. Case for Overseas Bases *[IZVESTIYA 9 Oct]* 16
U.S. Position on Philippine Bases Criticized 17
Reagan Signs Order for Aid to Contras 17
Hollywood Backing for Dukakis Campaign Noted *[IZVESTIYA 11 Oct]* 18
Cut in Funding Reflects Doubts Over SDI *[PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 18

China

Premier Li Peng Rebuts 'Capitalist' Charge *[IZVESTIYA 8 Oct]* 18
Tereshkova, Delegation Arrive in Beijing 19
Received by Chen Muhua 19
Direct Trade Between Taiwan, Moscow Discussed *[AFP]* 19

Near East & South Asia

Rebels, Plastic Explosives Move Into Kabul Area *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 12 Oct]* 19
Life for Troops Along Salang-Kabul Road Described 20
TV Shows Kabul-Salang Road 21

Algierian Situation Cuts Short Soviet Days 21
Islamic Fundamentalists Causing Algerian Unrest *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 11 Oct]* 23
Israeli Officials' Positions Seen To 'Evolve' *[Christyakov in PRAVDA 6 Oct]* 24
PDRY Party Leader Welcomes Peace Initiatives *[PRAVDA 8 Oct]* 25
Lushev To Visit PDRY, YAR Mid-October *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Oct]* 25
Government Greets YAR's Salih on National Day *[IZVESTIYA 8 Oct]* 25
Soviet Chemical Weapon Aid to Syria Denied *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Oct]* 26
Public Education Official Holds Talks in Syria *[IZVESTIYA 11 Oct]* 26
Bessmertnykh, Brutents Meet With PLO Delegation 26
Further Details Reported *[Kuwait KUNA]* 27

East Europe

CPCZ Plenum Ends; Personnel Changes Announced 27
Jakes Speech Reported *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 11 Oct]* 27
Military Chiefs Attend CSSR Embassy Reception *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Oct]* 28
Afghan Veterans To Receive Treatment in CSSR *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 6 Oct]* 29
LCY-Montenegro Joint Session Held in Belgrade 29
TASS Reports on Serbian CP Meeting in SFRY 30
Yugoslav Parliamentarians Received in Moscow 30
Zaykov Concludes Working Visit to Poland 30
Departs Warsaw 30
Returns to Moscow 30
Jaruzelski Cited on Party's Role in Production *[PRAVDA 7 Oct]* 31
Polish Spokesman on Speech by Solidarity Official 31
Polish Roundtable Talks, Demonstrations Assessed 31
CPSU Delegation Studies PZPR Economic Efforts *[PRAVDA 9 Oct]* 32
Bulgaria's Zhivkov Receives Yazov in Sofia 32
Joint USSR-GDR Exercises Set for 17-23 Oct 32
Honecker Cited on USSR-GDR Cooperation *[PRAVDA 9 Oct]* 32
Honecker Cited on USSR Visit, GDR Successes *[PRAVDA 7 Oct]* 33
ADN Reports on GDR Trade Exhibition in Moscow 33
Talyzin Attends Closing 33
'Vremya' Carries GDR Envoy's National Day Speech 33
USSR Sends National Day Greetings to GDR *[PRAVDA 7 Oct]* 34

West Europe

Further Reportage on Shevardnadze Paris Meetings 34
Speaks at Soviet Embassy 34
Meets with PCF's Marchais 34
'Intensive' Talks With Dumas 35
Meets French Parliamentarian *[PRAVDA 12 Oct]* 36
Speaks at Dinner 36
Dumas Speaks at Dinner 36
Further Reportage on Austrian Chancellor's Visit 37
Meets With Ryzhkov *[PRAVDA 12 Oct]* 37
Ryzhkov Kremlin Dinner Speech 39
Vranitzky Reply to Ryzhkov *[PRAVDA 11 Oct]* 42
Vranitzky Assesses Ryzhkov Speech *[Vienna]* 43
Ryzhkov Meets Austrian Businessmen 44
Vranitzky, Kamentsev at Meeting 45
Vranitzky Meet Gorbachev 45
Vranitzky on Gorbachev Talks *[Vienna Television]* 46

Latin America & Caribbean

Nicaragua Passes 'State of Emergency' Law 47
Central American Efforts Followed With Interest 48
Delegates Attend Peruvian Party Celebration *[PRAVDA 9 Oct]* 48
Anniversary Greetings Extended *[PRAVDA 7 Oct]* 49

Peruvian Foreign Trade Official Signs Agreement *[IZVESTIYA 7 Oct]* 49
Sarney Visit Termed Brazilian-Soviet 'Milestone' 49

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Gorbachev Opens Lease-Contract Farmers Meeting 50
Zaykov Attends Moscow Development Session *[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 6 Oct]* 50
Ukrainian Central Committee Plenum Ends 11 Oct 50
Shcherbitskiy Retains Post *[AFP]* 50
Report on Latvian Leaders' Addresses to Rally *[Riga]* 50
Speech by Popular Front Leader Reported *[Riga]* 51
Latvian Supreme Soviet Views Language Issue *[Riga]* 53
Songayla Speech at Lithuanian Plenum Cited *[Vilnius]* 54
Lithuania's 'Economic Sovereignty' Assessed *[Vilnius]* 54
Election 'Falsification' in Armenia Reported *[Yerevan]* 55
'Provocation' Detailed 55
Further on Plenum, 'Rigging' *[IZVESTIYA 12 Oct]* 56
Further on Nagorno-Karabakh Ethnic Unrest 56
'Sense of Fear' Cited *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 11 Oct]* 56
Vezirov, Arutyunyan Meet 57
Activities, Interviews Reported 58
Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet To Meet in November *[Baku]* 59
Readers Ask Questions on 30 Sep Plenum *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 11 Oct]* 59
Figures for Jewish Emigration Released *[AFP]* 59
Moscow To Commemorate Stalin Reprisal Victims 60
Shmelev Defends Academics' Role Under Brezhnev *[NEDELYA No 39]* 60
Pustogarov on Economic, Leadership Moves *[Vienna]* 62
Questions on National Living Standards Answered *[TRUD 5 Oct]* 64
Television Culture, 'Responsibility' Discussed *[PRAVDA 6 Oct]* 67
Problems Facing Crime Fighters Outlined *[TRUD 5 Oct]* 68

NATO, Pact Officials Meet on Mandate Talks

LD1010113388 Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Vienna October 10 TASS—A regular meeting was held here today within the framework of consultations between representatives of the member states of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation (WTO) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) on the elaboration of a mandate for future talks on reducing the armed forces and conventional arms in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

PRAVDA on Importance of Reykjavik Summit

PM1110140788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[Tomas Kolesnichenko "Viewpoint": "Reykjavik Compass"]

[Text] Geneva-Reykjavik-Washington-Moscow.... Each of the four Soviet-U.S. summit meetings was a kind of "step on a great path," the materialization of new thinking. History has set its seal on each one of them. Yet there is among them one which should be singled out in particular. This particular one—although apparently not producing a specific effective result and which, quite honestly, disappointed observers at first—subsequently assumed historic, crucial significance.

I mean the "intermediate" or "working" meeting, as it is also called, between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan held in the Icelandic capital 2 years ago. Then, in Reykjavik, experiencing a tedious wait for the doors of the Hofdi residence, where the talks were being held, finally to open, many journalists did not even suppose that agreements on an unprecedented scale were being discussed there and that never before in the history of the nuclear age had the sides come so close to an accord.

Reykjavik became a turning point in world history for the very reason that the question of reducing or eliminating not only missiles but also all strategic weapons was discussed there specificially on a working level. The Soviet delegation had brought to the capital of the "land of ice" major draft measures which, if adopted, would initiate the birth of a new epoch in the life of mankind—an epoch without nuclear weapons.

Our first proposal concerned strategic offensive weapons. M.S. Gorbachev proposed to R. Reagan a 50-percent cut in them over the first 5 years. We thereby took a bold step—we untied a "package" which included intermediate-range missiles in the overall Soviet-U.S. strategic balance. After sharp polemics (M.S. Gorbachev writes of this in detail in his book) the U.S. President responded to our concessions by agreeing to such an approach. "Moreover," the book states, "he advanced the idea of the total elimination of strategic offensive arms during the subsequent 5 years—which I, naturally, supported resolutely."

I cite these words because the subject of who said what in Reykjavik on the U.S. side is still being debated in the West, particularly in the United States. The thing is that Reagan himself has not clarified this question. He declares at one time that "he was misunderstood," at another time that what was discussed in Reykjavik was just "ballistic missiles" and not all strategic weapons, and then again categorizes this whole specific accord as a "daydream" which may be realized "sometime." It is possible to understand Reagan personally. Two years have passed, but many people in America, particularly ultraright-wingers and those whom people there call "dealers in death," have still not recovered from the shock caused by the news from Iceland at that time. I think that if Reagan had gone all the way there and the accords had become a reality, this could have cost him his political career. At any rate, influential U.S. circles would have done everything possible to wreck the agreement on eliminating nuclear weapons.

But what happened happened. Not only was the peak visible in Reykjavik, but there was only one step to go to reach it. One person's "head began to swim," let us say, and he did not hold out. So be it, but the summit was close all the same. "The impossible" had become possible. The total elimination of nuclear weapons had shifted from the sphere of fantasy to reality, and the whole world understood this. A qualitatively different situation than before had been created. History has "remembered" Reykjavik and has forever added it to its "genes." After Reykjavik no one can act any longer the way he acted prior to it....

Our second proposal concerned intermediate-range missiles. The celebrated treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, which was the first major step on the way to real nuclear disarmament (Washington and Moscow can be proud of it), originated in Reykjavik, where its foundations were laid.

The stumbling block was the third question or, rather, the U.S. stand on the ABM Treaty. The U.S. side proved not to be ready to abandon the hope of achieving military superiority over us. If not on earth, then in space—but to emerge in front. As a result, although the sides were on the threshold of adopting historic decisions, a unique opportunity was missed. This too is a lesson of Reykjavik. It became obvious that global problems—such as security, nuclear disarmament, and the prevention of new spirals and directions of the arms race—can be resolved only on the principles of new political thinking. Otherwise nothing will come of it. The meeting in Iceland was a landmark event. It marked the end of one stage of the struggle for disarmament and the start of another stage.

The final, but very important point, without which—as it is now clear—neither politicans nor diplomats can manage any longer if they want to secure real results: A bold, nonstandard approach in negotiations and a rejection of all banality and of primitive political arithmetic

were manifested in Reykjavik. Of course, it is impossible to do without serious preparatory work at a certain level in negotiations. But large-scale "breakthroughs" are needed. The departure from the irksome calculations of mutual "levels" and "sublevels" and from all this naphthalene-smelling trash (which it took the "intermediate" summit meeting to achieve) raised the Soviet-U.S. dialogue, as well as the entire East-West dialogue, to a new level. This must be remembered today, when difficult disarmament negotiations are continuing and some people would like once again to turn this subject into an involved document. Since Reykjavik the world public has become, as it were, a participant in these negotiations. The political fog and demagoguery will no longer do. Nor primitivism. Reykjavik outlined a different route. And we must keep to its compass.

Military Observer on Arms Talks Issues
PM1110143188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 First Edition p 5

[Observer Aleksandr Golts military-political review: "Hearing the Call of the Future"]

[Text] A complex and in many ways unusual situation is taking shape in the world today. Mankind is at the start of a path which opens up new prospects but is fraught with new difficulties. Whether these hopes will be materialized in reality and whether the difficulties will be successfully overcome depends on how Soviet-U.S. relations develop further.

Many contradictions remain in Washington's position, and the election campaign has revealed these contradictions very clearly. On the one hand, the process of the implementation of the treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles is continuing and talks aimed at concluding agreements with the USSR in various fields are under way. But on the other, speeches couched in the worst confrontationist spirit are being delivered in the U.S. capital. Here is a recent speech by the U.S. President at Georgetown University. It contained affected grief over the "millions and millions who still live under the communist yoke," the demand that "the Soviet puppets in Nicaragua and Angola" be removed from power, and praise for the "exploit" in Grenada—in brief, all the rubbish smelling of mothballs which should long ago have been placed on the garbage heap of history. Several speeches by those who have entered the struggle for seats in the White House also put us on our guard. What is the value of the recent statement by Republican Vice Presidential candidate Quayle to the effect that Soviet-U.S. strategic arms talks must be slowed down in the future?

If only the matter were restricted merely to speeches and statements! No, militarist circles have again markedly stepped up their activity. A characteristic detail: The Pentagon recently decided to resume work on the creation of the Gwen communications system designed to operate in... the course of nuclear war. A real relapse into the past! Nor can we fail to be put on our guard by other Pentagon projects, funds for whose implementation have been earmarked in the budget for fiscal 1989 which has just been signed by the President. The Defense Department is again being allocated about $300 billion.

If you compare these programs with the topics of the Soviet-U.S. talks under way now and under way successfully, then real perplexity arises. Let's take the talks on a 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive armaments. Approaches have been found and areas of consensus are being expanded on complex issues such as control over mobile ICBM's and air-launched cruise missiles. But obstacles are again arising.

Unfortunately, to this day the sea-launched long-range cruise missiles remain a stumbling block. It looks as though Washington has been tempted by the fact that the Americans are ahead in this field. Forgetting that the path of the arms race is absolutely hopeless, they are trying to consolidate the advantage gained in this field.

And the result? A story has been circulated to the effect that it is this type of nuclear weapon which is not amenable to any control. In reality it is possible to establish control, as long as the desire to do so is there. But the United States is obviously reluctant to come to terms with monitoring on ships and submarines.

These problems could be resolved in general. But how are we to understand the fact that, at the same time talks are being conducted, the Pentagon intends to deploy precisely those types of arms whose reduction is being discussed? Surely Washington wants to reach an accord? One cannot help asking that question. Why else earmark funds for deploying MX missiles at railroad platforms and creating the new "Midgetman" ICBM's?

The U.S. position on the question of nuclear tests is also contradictory. Quite recently the joint statement by E.A. Shevardnadze and G. Shultz welcomed the completion of the joint experiment on verification at USSR and U.S. nuclear test ranges. The ministers gave instructions to complete work on new protocols to the "threshold" treaties of 1974 and 1976 aimed at limiting nuclear tests. Moreover, it is a case not only of ratifying these documents but also of conducting further talks.

Nonetheless, a few days ago the White House sent a report to Congress asserting: "We do not regard nuclear tests as an evil that should be reduced." Contrary to his former statements, the President indicates that there is no "direct technical link between reducing the number of tests and reducing nuclear arsenals." According to information of THE NEW YORK TIMES, this tone emerged after the hardliners gained the upper hand during the discussion of this issue in the administration.

To all appearances it is the hardliners who are sparing no effort to use the last months of Reagan's presidency to make the "Star Wars" program irreversible. The President himself, who has firmly linked himself with the idea of SDI, is now stigmatizing the liberals who, he says, in opposing this program "want to leave America without defense against nuclear missiles." And the legislators, giving in to blatant blackmail, not only earmarked $4.1 billion for "Star Wars" in 1989 but also repealed previously adopted restrictions on the Pentagon's development of a space-launched interceptor missile. The ban has also been lifted on test launches of missiles following a flat trajectory.

This is happening precisely when the adventurist nature of SDI, even from the technical viewpoint, is becoming increasingly obvious. To all appearances the disciples of "Star Wars" have had to abandon the idea of deploying in near-earth space thousands of satellites and hundreds of platforms equipped with exotic arms like laser and beam weapons. Following recommendations from the Pentagon military science council, Defense Secretary F. Carlucci has stopped at a more modest option, the start of whose deployment is planned in the nineties. According to information in the newspaper DEFENSE NEWS, the key element here will be a space-based interceptor.

If one digs deeper, it turns out that this option means the actual renunciation of the idea of a "shield" over the United States. Contrary to what the President continues to say to this day, a system is being created which will defend military establishments, by no means the civilian population. One does not need to be a specialist in strategy to understand that this reorientation definitively tears away every veil from the frankly aggressive essence of "Star Wars."

At the same time, militarist circles, deeply interested in at least the partial implementation of SDI, are not ceasing their attempts to compromise the ABM Treaty. The United States recently accused the Soviet Union, utterly without foundation, of violating this treaty. The construction near the Krasnoyarsk radar station, in no way intended for ABM purposes, again served as the pretext. As is well known, the Soviet Union has suggested creating an international space research center based at this radar station. The administration has promised to consider this proposal. But immediately, as though following someone's order, there began to appear in the press a wave of items which vainly tried to prove that the USSR's new proposals were a trap for the United States.

The present complex situation convinces us that U.S. militarist circles do not intend to surrender their positions, that they intend to use the election situation and the handover of power in the White House to try to return to the sphere of military confrontation.

In all the contradictions of the present moment it is very important to discern the real trends in the development of the international situation and to distinguish the call of the future behind the saber rattling. Here the experience of Reykjavik can be a kind of tuning fork. It was 2 years ago, having come up against a very complex situation whereby the protracted, frenzied state of international relations obviously entailed the threat of developing toward a fatal crisis, that the Soviet Union proposed this unplanned summit meeting. We came to it with an integral program for ridding the world of nuclear weapons. The program included reaching an agreement on intermediate-range missiles, halving strategic offensive arms, and then completely eliminating them while consolidating the ABM Treaty, and advancing toward the banning of nuclear weapons tests.

Something unprecedented in history happened as a result. The leaders of our two countries reached an agreement concerning the elimination of nuclear arsenals. This was a real breakthrough into the future. It is true that this agreement was not successfully enshrined in an accord. The U.S. Administration's adherence to the "Star Wars" program prevented that.

What did Reykjavik become for the peoples? "But you yourself should not distinguish defeat from victory," the poet said of his own labor. It happens that one cannot immediately distinguish between defeat and victory in international affairs either. Some people were struck over the fact that no agreement was reached. But the essence of the event lay elsewhere: A door into a nuclear-free world, a world without fear of a universal catastrophe, was for the first time opened up before mankind. And that hope was worth a lot. Today we cannot fail to pay tribute to the Soviet leadership, which saw in the Reykjavik drama the birth of a qualitatively new situation, saw that the struggle for nuclear disarmament had scaled a new height. As the Politburo decision emphasized, it was from this height that we had to continue to build up efforts with a view to radically reducing and completely eliminating nuclear weapons. The past 2 years have shown that this conclusion was the only correct one. Now we can say that it was in the Icelandic capital that a program was formulated in accordance with which work then proceeded at the Geneva talks and during the Washington and Moscow summits.

Reykjavik introduced clarity to political thinking and public consciousness. Its import went beyond the framework of Soviet-U.S. relations. The name of the Icelandic capital has already become a common name, and the idea of a second "Reykjavik" has already been put forward—an all-European meeting to discuss just one question: how to ensure the transition from words to deed in the field of disarmament on the continent.

Since Reykjavik too much has changed for the better in Soviet-U.S. relations for us not to look into the future with hope. The 2 years which have elapsed since Reykjavik have become a turning point. The peoples, who

would not allow any departure from the boundaries of Reykjavik, will under no circumstances now allow us to descend to the closed circles of confrontation.

Chernyshev on Test Ban Treaty Anniversary
PM1110114188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 First Edition p 5

[Article by V. Chernyshev, TASS observer for military questions: "Topical Lesson"]

[Text] The Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space, and Underwater—the Moscow treaty—entered into force 10 October 1963. This event marked the first major success in the struggle to limit the nuclear arms race. Now, 25 years later, when the USSR and the United States are conducting full-scale talks on the limitation and ultimately the total ending of nuclear tests, I think it would be useful to take a look back and consider the lessons connected with the drafting and signing of the 1963 treaty.

First of all the reaching of a practical accord was a reflection of a certain evolution in Washington's views of the disarmament problem. As one of J. Kennedy's aides, T. Sorensen, recalled later, the president's initial interest in disarmament was largely for propaganda reasons: the desire to influence world public opinion. But later the president increasingly began to realize that there is no ultimate security in arms, that tension and danger increase at the same rate as the growth of nuclear arsenals.

Essentially there had already appeared then in the U.S. Administration the shoots of an understanding of the fact that a new face of war had emerged and that total nuclear war had no sense. Addressing American University in Washington on 10 June 1963, J. Kennedy stated that he would speak of peace, without having in mind the "Pax Americana" imposed on mankind by American warfare weapons, and he put foremost the premise that, together with substantial contradictions, the United States and the USSR have important common and abiding interests which create an objective basis for diplomatic settlement and the maintenance of peaceful mutual relations.

And to all appearances the president and his immediate entourage viewed the Moscow treaty on nuclear tests not only as an individual important agreement on curbing the nuclear arms race but also as a point of departure for carrying out further measures in the direction of easing international tension. The treaty could obviously be viewed as a practical manifestation of the untraditional thinking which had penetrated the barrier of the "cold war."

At the same time we must point to one more lesson connected with the history of this treaty's ratification. Alongside the direct defense of the Moscow treaty as a peace measure, representatives of the U.S. Administration have resorted extensively to praising it as an instrument of an entirely different kind—an instrument for preserving the United States' military advantages. In particular it has been claimed that, by limiting nuclear tests to the underground medium, where explosions are more difficult and expensive and where the United States has more experience, Washington can delay Soviet progress and extend the period of U.S. technological supremacy. Much has also been said about how the treaty is "the product of U.S. strength." All this attests to how deep the Washington administration's devotion has remained to military strength and to calculations of preserving in one form or another, including the military technology form, some kind of superiority in strength for the United States over the Soviet Union. As we know, subsequently too it was this line that predominated in Washington's policy.

And, finally, a third lesson. It must be frankly admitted that the negative attitude toward on-site verification that existed in our country for a long time was one of the pretexts used by certain circles in the West to erect barriers on the path of a total ban on nuclear tests.

A fundamentally new situation has now been created, making it possible to make headway on the path of a total ban on nuclear explosions. Washington can no longer use verification as a pretext for refusing this headway. The USSR advocates varied verification measures—both national and international—with on-site inspection. It is now up to Washington's political will.

CEMA Executive Session Concludes in Moscow

Secretariat Head on EEC Ties

LD0810050688 Moscow TASS in English 2158 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 8 TASS—By TASS correspondent Igor Galkin.

Cooperation between the CMEA and the EEC, two major international economic organisations is now coming over to a practical plane. The is the common opinion at the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

It has been repeatedly pointed here to many important problems the solution of which could be largely accelerated through coordinated interaction of the two organisations and the affiliated countries. Environmental protection is among these problems. The nature is single and it calls for joint programmes of its protection. [sentence as received] And meanwhile, CMEA and EEC countries have not yet been engaged in coordinating norms of admissible limits to harmful components in wastes and discharges of industrial enterprises.

CMEA member countries are participating in explorations to ensure the safety of atomic electric power stations within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Such interaction is quite possible with the EEC. There are vast potentialities in agreed upon solution of other energy questions.

Head of the CMEA Secretariat Ryshard Bukhovetskiy believes that "a huge quantity of electric energy could be saved for common benefit only through pooling the power systems of West European countries and the joint power grid of the CMEA countries, owing to expansion of possibilities of redistribution of the current.

Scientific-technical revolution dictates the same demands in the development of the basic branches of production. And this is most convincingly manifest in creating new technologies. It is not casual that the concrete problems being coped with by the CMEA countries within the framework of the comprehensive programme of development of science and technology up to the year 2000 and the West European states under the Eureka programme coincide by almost 80 per cent.

Most up-to-date technologies so far mainly go from Western countries. This movement could be a two-way traffic, it is believed at the CMEA, if the world-known accomplishments in fundamental research in socialist countries are pooled with the experience and enterprise of Western partners. Realisation of such projects would be of mutual benefit, and entail broader trade exchange between CMEA and EEC countries. Its volume now cannot be considered satisfactory.

Removal of Cocom barriers, coordination of standards for industrial and farm products are mentioned here among measures that could envigorate business relations between the two organisations and the affiliated countries.

Major changes are now taking place in the economy of socialist countries, thus promoting the development of foreign economic relations.

Committee Session Ends 11 Oct

LD1110021088 Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—The 129th session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) Executive Committee drew to an end here today. During the session consultations were conducted on prospects for boosting the CMEA countries; cooperation in the period ending in 2000 and on possible ways to increase the social thrust of this cooperation in the interests of better satisfying the requirements of the CMEA countries' population.

The considerations on this question by representatives of the CMEA countries will be taken into account in the process of coordinating national economic plans and in the work to overhaul the cooperation mechanism.

The CMEA Executive Committee discussed the issues of upgrading and enhancing the efficiency of the settlement and creditng mechanism in transferable roubles. It was recognized that the measures taken in this connection by the International Bank of Economic Cooperation and the International Investment Bank orientate at improving credit planning.

The Executive Committee examined questions related to the elaboration of the settlement and crediting instruments that encourage the development of direct links between economic organisations, and also to the formation and operation of joint business enterprises of the countries concerned. Special importance here is attached to bolstering the monetary functions of the transferable rouble and creating economic pre-conditions for the use of national currencies by the countries concerned in their mutual settlements.

The session adopted a communique which points out that the committee also addressed the proposals for information servicing of economic organisations, enterprises and research institutes of the CMEA countries whose cooperation is based in direct links. A uniform information system, which is being created by the countries concerned, covers questions of the economic, foreign economic and legal nature of direct ties.

In connection with the establishment of official relations between the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the European Economic Community (EEC), the Executive Committee discussed prospects for cooperation between them. Proposals were worked out for developing

mutually beneficial ties. They will be submitted for subsequent discussion with EEC representatives. The session also noted the importance of the realization of these proposals in the context of European cooperation.

Sychev on Results of Meeting

LD1210042488 Moscow TASS in English 2230 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 12 TASS—Now we, together with our partners in the European Economic Community, get down to a stage of talks on defining specific themes and projects of cooperation, Vyacheslav Sychev, secretary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, told TASS. The 129th meeting of the CMEA Executive Committee which ended Tuesday, examined questions pertaining to the coming talks with the EEC and defined the position of the socialist coummunity at them.

Vyacheslav Sychev singled out questions of restructuring the mechanism of mutual cooperation among other important issues discussed at the executive's meeting. He said: "All CMEA members stand out for improving the mechanism of cooperation, since all of us understand well that without this we cannot efficiently develop our socialist economic integration".

He noted that the started coordination of the national economic plans of socialist countries for the coming five-year plan period (1991-1995) is being made with an account taken for improving this mechanism.

The CMEA secretary pointed to the importance of consultations held at the meeting of the Executive Committee on problems pertaining to social orientation of mutual cooperation and prospects of this cooperation for the period of up to the year 2000.

He noted that not all questions at the meeting were resolved "without a hitch". Some problems arise at every meeting, he went on to say. It is quite natural: the countries have various levels of development, their peculiar features of the national economic mechanism. Therefore, they are ready for some or other specific proposals not to the same extent. Different points of view are expressed on a number of questions. The CMEA often applies a principle provided for by its charter: a principle of interest when countries which are ready at a given time to participate in a specific project, agree to finance it.

Vyacheslav Sychev pointed out at the same time that "as a result of the present meeting, the executive took unanimously agreed decisions, and now the main task is to realize them quickly".

Need for 'Radical' Change

LD1210042788 Budapest MTI in English 0003 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, October 11 (MTI)—The cooperation mechanism of the socialist countries requires radical transformation, and should be suitable for organizing direct relations between the producing companies of the member countries, for which the necessary flexible accounting-credit granting system should be created, said Vyacheslav Sychev, secretary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, in an interview with MTI's Moscow correspondent.

Sychev noted that two consultations of the two-day session of the CMEA Executive Committee should be stressed. The first is the social-welfare orientation of cooperation and the second related to the perspectives of cooperation between the member states. "The Executive Committee is aware that social-welfare issues are ranked among the most important national strategic issues in the current stage of economic development. The position of the Executive Committee is that this should also be reflected in the cooperation of the member states. The Executive Committee emphatically noted that the world economic processes and scientific results should be taken into consideration when coordinating the national economic plans of the member states and determining the qualitative and quantitative indices of cooperation."

Under previously established practice, the financial relations of cooperation agreements implied a burden for both the national banks of the member countries, and the two joint banks of the CMEA. The Executive Committee has thoroughly examined the first results of the analyzing work carried out by several member states, which aimed at determining the economic conditions to set up a joint CMEA-level commercial bank. The bank will expressely have the task of financing direct relations between the producing companies, Sychev pointed out.

Following the establishment of official relations between the EEC and the CMEA, the time has now come to determine the concrete areas and forms in which cooperation between the two organizations can develop. In this context Sychev said that the Executive Committee acknowledged with satisfaction the agreement concluded between the EEC and Hungary.

Polish Delegate on Session

LD1210054088 Warsaw PAP in English 0051 GMT 12 Oct 88

[By PAP correspondent Slawomir Popowski]

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 11—Immediately after the two-day, 129th meeting of the CMEA Executive Committee, which ended here today, the head of Poland's delegation, Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Wladyslaw Gwiazda, told PAP and TRYBUNA LUDU correspondents:

"The main subject of the session of the CMEA Executive Committee were problems stemming from the decisions of the 44th CMEA session. A set of topics connected with the restructuring of the currency-financial mechanisms of cooperation was reveiwed.

"In particular we devoted much attention to the improvement of the system of interest rates on credits awarded by the International Bank of Economic Cooperation and the International Investment Bank as well as to the improvement of the credit activities of these banks.

"In the future, in accordance with the adopted decisions, envisaged is the creation of an international commercial bank for financing direct production ties.

"The solutions adopted on these matters will to a greater extent influence the development of mutual trade exchange and the lasting profitability of the banks credit operations.

"However, no progress was made in a number of issues like the procedure of awarding credits on easier terms, stabilization of settlement margins, the awarding of additional credits at higher interest rates as well as settlements in the construction of jointly built objects. These issues will be the subject of further work by the CMEA's bodies.

"We also spoke about the state and roads of development of the internal markets of the CMEA member states and problems of the gradual shaping of a joint socialist market on the basis of theses markets.

"So far these issues were not sufficiently recognized in the integration processes. We hold the opinion that the CMEA may make a significant contribution to the development of cooperation, especially concerning the supply of national markets in food and industrial goods, the modernization of the technical base used to produce these articles, etc.

"We stressed that the effective solution of all of these matters will depend on the acceleration of socialist integration especially in conditions of the strengthening of the integration processes in Western Europe, including the creation of a uniform market withing the EEC."

Bloc Military Publishers Meet in Bulgaria
PM1210092988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Oct 88 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Conference Held"]

[Text] Sofia, 5 Oct—The patriotic and international education of the defenders of socialism is the most important task of socialist countries' military literature publishing houses. This was said at a conference of leaders of military literature publishing houses from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and the CSSR, which was held in Sofia 3-5 October.

The visitors were received by Lieutenant General I. Bosev, first deputy chief of the Bulgarian People's Army Main Political Directorate, who wished them new successes in their responsible work.

By virtue of an order by Army General D. Dzhurov, Bulgarian minister of national defense, the medal "For Services to the Bulgarian People's Army" was awarded to military literature publishing house chiefs Major General B. Pendyur and Colonels L. Nemet, Kh. Ushek, F. Stepnevskiy, K. Zamfir, and S. Mistr [names as published] for their major contribution to the political and international education of servicemen and the development of friendship between the fraternal armies.

Gerasimov Holds Foreign Ministry Press Briefing

Comments on Soviet-Somali Ties

LD1110143288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1345 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, 11 Oct (TASS)—"The Soviet Union is interested in the elimination of tension in the Horn of Africa. Bringing Soviet-Somali relations onto their normal course of friendly cooperation is in keeping with this aim," said Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at a press briefing here today.

He reported that the latest round of Soviet-Somali consultations concerning the normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and Somalia took place in Mogadishu 1-4 October. The Soviet diplomat said: At the consultations, possibilities and specific ways to resume normal friendly relations in various spheres on the basis of mutual benefit and reciprocal interests were considered. A memorandum on mutual understanding and a plan for cultural cooperation between the USSR and the Somali Democratic Republic for 1989-90 were signed as a result of the consultations.

The sides reached the opinion that there is no further need to hold special rounds of consultations and agreed to develop bilateral relations, resolving all questions in this sphere through normal diplomatic channels or through an exchange of delegations of the appropriate ministries and departments, if this should prove necessary.

During the consultations there was also an exchange of opinions on international questions, including the situation in the Horn of Africa. Firm support was expressed on the Soviet side for the process of establishing good-neighborly relations between Somalia and Ethiopia, which is regarded in the Soviet Union as an important factor in ensuring peace and stability in the region, G. Gerasimov stressed.

Notes Significance of Reykjavik

LD1110150588 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—The past two years since the Gorbachev-Reagan summit in Reykjavik have witnessed many major developments that have exerted substantial influence on the world situation, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists here today.

"The significance of the Reykjavik summit is especially, exclusively great today even against that background," he observed.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the ministry's Information Directorate, said that the results of the summit generated a powerful flow of diverse interpretations and comments.

The voice of those who were used to link the notion of security to the concept of nuclear deterrence was in sharp contrast with the overall positive assessment, he noted.

"Their negativism is not difficult to understand," Gerasimov said, "as the meeting in the capital of Iceland marked the reinstatement of the idea of complete nuclear disarmament in the world arena."

For the first time in many years, the leaders of the two major nuclear powers talked of radical cuts in strategic and other nuclear armaments and of the total elimination of nuclear weapons in the not too distant future.

Regrettably, the Reykjavik meeting failed to produce specific decisions on this account, Gerasimov said. The U.S. stance on the ABM problem was an obstacle.

"It is obvious now, however, that the Soviet proposals in fact formed a programme of action in the field of nuclear disarmament that is now being implemented by the two sides," the Soviet spokesman pointed out.

"The first intermediate goal has been attained as the sides have signed and ratified the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles."

Reykjavik was oriented towards the future, the potential of those historic days was being implemented now, Gerasimov said.

On Paris Talks, Vranitzky Visit

LD1110153688 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman today hailed the final agreement on exchanges of visits at the highest level between the USSR and France as an important result of talks conducted by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Paris.

Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, was speaking at a briefing.

He told the attending Soviet and foreign correspondents: "Both we and our French partners believe that the forthcoming meetings of the leaders of the two countries will set a new political pace in Soviet-French cooperation and help broaden the spheres of constructive cooperation between the two countries on the international scene."

The spokesman said the Paris talks have demonstrated a high degree of compatibility between Soviet and French priorities as regards disarmament and the two nations' readiness to take practical action in this field.

Commenting on the official visit of Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky to this country, Gerasimov said:

"The position of the Austrian leadership that because of its location, Austria is especially interested in constructive involvement in the processes of easing tension in Europe finds understanding in the Soviet Union.

"We also share the Austrian side's view that the final document of the Vienna followup meeting of the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe will reflect a drastically new state of relations between East and West."

Gerasimov said the decision of Libya and Chad to restore diplomatic relations between them has been welcomed in the Soviet Union as confirming the two countries' desire to further the process of a political settlement between them and representing an important step to restoring peace in that part of Africa. The spokesman described the changeover from confrontation to dialogue between Tripoli and Ndjamena as reflecting the current general turn for the better in international affairs and testifying to the growing recognition of the principles of new political thinking.

Gerasimov said that the view of U.S. President Ronald Reagan who has described increased student exchanges between the USSR and the United States as a boom of people-to-people contacts is shared in the USSR.

Wide-ranging youth exchanges between the two countries and good prospects for their development, the Soviet spokesman said, are striking evidence of the vitality of the agreements and understandings reached at Soviet-U.S. summits.

Gerasimov was asked about the credibility of an Israeli radio report that a deputy director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry will arrive in Moscow to replace the leader of a group of Israeli diplomats dealing with the issues of work handled by the section for protecting Israel's interests at the Dutch Embassy.

"As we have already reported," the spokesman replied, "the visas of the Israeli diplomats have been renewed for another three months at their request. It is indeed possible that some of the group members will be replaced. We do not know, however, the level at which this will be done. And besides, this doesn't have any significance. The purely technical functions of the work being done by the Israeli diplomats in Moscow are not changing. They are not conducting any political work. The size of the group will remain unchanged."

Reviews Afghan Situation

LD1110154188 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—Contrary to the recent assertions by armed opposition leaders to the effect that mujahidin actions in Afghanistan were primarily directed at military facilities, mujahidin sources themselves confirm the opposite, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the ministry's Information Directorate, pointed out that the number of civilian casualties was growing as a result of rocket attacks, terrorist acts and other actions staged by the militants.

Old men, women and children were victims of these actions. Last September alone, according to some estimates, more than 170 civilians perished and 500 were wounded in Afghanistan.

Responsibility for these crimes should be shared by those who were backing the extremists from outside, the Soviet spokesman said.

Opposition formations were receiving assistance from engineering specialists from Western and Arab countries. Pakistan was especially active in extending assistance to the opposition, Gerasimov said.

In violation of the Geneva agreements, Pakistan was not only providing financial and military aid to the rebels, but was also mounting direct interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

Pakistani troops and frontier units were ever more often taking part in combat actions on the side of the Afghan opposition.

On October 1, 500 Pakistanis intruded inside Afghan territory in the district of Shahr-e Safi, Zabol Province, and took part in an operation against Afghan Government troops.

Similar incidents had earlier been recorded in the provinces of Kunar and Qandahar.

Gerasimov emphasised that the address by the upper house of the Afghan parliament to the compatriots abroad, urging them to sit down at the negotiating table with a view to ending the war and defining the country's future, was "yet another impetus towards national reconciliation."

Petrovskiy Attends Conference on Global Security

LD0910162088 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] New York October 9 TASS—An international conference on problems of lessening the war danger with multilateral means ended in Kingston (Canada). It was attended by prominent scientists, politicians and public figures from several countries.

The conference was addressed by Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister. He pointed out in the report "From Crisis to Preventive Diplomacy at U.N." that a swing to curing crises and conflicts which afflicted several areas of the world, as festering wounds, was becoming a distinguishing feature of the present political development. He pointed to the growing responsibility of the U.N. everywhere: an Afghan settlement which is of

key importance for the chain reaction in resolving regional conflicts, in the Iran-Iraq, Namibian, Mid-Eastern and West Saharan situations.

"We regard all this," the speaker said, "as the start of a practical advance towards all-embracing security. Its structure is being formed on the basis of the U.N. Charter in organic unity with a rising role and efficiency of the organization as a centre for agreeing actions of states. This process will result not only in settling all the present but also (what is especially important) in preventing new conflicts. [no end quotation marks as received]

Both security and prevention of crises need an all-embracing approach covering not only military and political but also economic, ecological and humanitarian spheres. All these spheres can and should have reliably operating systems of early warning, as it were, on brewing problems, which would enable to take in time adequate measures and would ensure stability and predictability of international development on the basis of law and order and priority of human values.

This is the aim of the new Soviet proposals made at the 43rd session of the U.N. General Assembly. This is an assertion of the primate of international law in inter-state relations, a rise in U.N. efficiency and a broader use of the institute of military observers and U.N. peace-keeping forces.

A swing of the U.N. and other mechanisms to preventive diplomacy is a pressing matter. It is difficult to hope without this for the rule of law, common sense and morals in international relations. The Soviet Union sees in a resolute transition from crisis to preventive diplomacy one of the most important means of realising one-in-two formula put forth by it: from the balance of force to the balance of interests, to the primate of law in inter-state relations. In turn, this formula is regarded by the Soviet Union as a core and a systematizing factor of all-embracing security.

The U.N. is unthinkable without such security, as well as security for all presupposes stronger U.N. role, its use not so much as an experimental laboratory, but as a unique international "disease-prevention" centre.

PRAVDA on UN Economic Committee Debate

PM1010153588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Linnik report: "Constructive Ideas. General Political Debate Continues at United Nations"]

[Text] New York, 7 Oct—The work of the Second (Economic) Committee, where key problems of the development of the world economy and international economic cooperation are discussed, has begun at the 43d UN General Assembly session. The opening debates have been characterized by a searching spirit and persistent attempts to determine collective approaches toward resolving global economic and ecological problems.

The scale of these problems in today's world is tremendous. Despite the stabilization and even the improvement of the economic situation in individual countries, symptoms of trouble and instability in the world economy are multiplying. Speaking on behalf of the "Group of 77" countries, the Tunisian representative pointed out that developing states' foreign debt amounted to $1.2 trillion in 1987 and is still rising.

A.M. Belonogov, USSR permanent representative in the United Nations, who spoke during the Second Committee debate, noted that the United Nations can become a center for practical actions for a political settlement of economic and ecological problems. Dwelling on the concept of international economic security being discussed—at the USSR's suggestion—both inside and outside the United Nations, the Soviet representative pointed out that the USSR advocates elaboration within the United Nations of collective measures that will render the process of economic interdependence controllable and ensure predictability in international economic relations.

The sharp exacerbation of ecological problems imparts particular topicality to the task of stepping up UN economic activity. That is why the proposals put forward by USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze at the plenary sitting of the 43d UN General Assembly session, on implementing a series of major measures aimed at creating a program for controlling economic activity and transition to technologies sparing man and nature, are arousing great interest among the delegates.

Primakov Lauds Outcome of Vladivostok Forum

PM1110095188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[Interview with Academician Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the Soviet National Committee on Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, by correspondent O. Skalkin: "Facing the Pacific Ocean"; date, place not given; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The international meeting "The Asia-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, Cooperation" has ended in Vladivostok. It attracted a large number of participants from various countries of the region and the entire world—politicians, representatives of business circles, and scientists. PRAVDA correspondent O. Skalkin conducted an interview with Academician Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the Soviet National Committee on Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

[Skalkin] What impact did the ideas of the Krasnoyarsk initiatives on ensuring security and cooperation have at the conference?

[Primakov] The entire debate at the meeting took place in the mainstream of the proposals made in M.S. Gorbachev's Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk speeches. The meeting itself illustrated the successful development of dialogue between the Soviet Union and the states in the Asia-Pacific region. The stereotypes that existed in our policy 3 years ago have now been substantially loosened, if not destroyed.

First, the Krasnoyarsk initiatives cannot be regarded in isolation from the USSR's principled policy throughout the world. As for the military-political aspect of the ideas that have been put forward, they constitute an extension of our course of creating a universal system of security. In this context one cannot, for instance, talk solely about Europe, notwithstanding its exceptional importance. That is why the Soviet Union has also been active in stabilizing the situation in the Asia-Pacific region since the April (1985) plenum.

Second, the Vladivostok speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and his latest speech on the same topic made real proposals. This has already borne fruit.

Since March-April 1985 our relations with China have made progress. It was quite abnormal that tension was being kindled on both sides. I do not want to say who was to blame or who was more to blame. The main thing is that both sides made inadequate efforts to dispel the tension and to ensure that relations between the two largest socialist countries entered a normal course. A great deal has now proved possible to achieve. For the first time in many years a Chinese foreign minister is to visit the Soviet Union. We are coming closer and closer to a summit meeting, and the preparatory work for this may be considered to have already begun.

One can also mention the qualitative change that has occurred in the last 3 years in traditionally friendly Soviet-Indian relations. This was reflected in the Delhi Declaration. In this document, the concept of peaceful coexistence was supplemented by the ideas of a complete rejection of the use of force between all states.

Things with Japan are more complex. Incidentally, this was also clear from the positions that that country's representatives adopted at the conference. There are forces in Japan that would like to block progress toward normalizing relations by promoting the so-called territorial question. It is quite obvious that this is futile. At any rate it will not solve any questions.

In Soviet-U.S. relations we can note that we are no longer sliding toward the line which would—if crossed—threaten thermonuclear war. But there is still a mass of unresolved problems here. Many of them are concentrated in the Asia-Pacific region. Why? The United States regards its fleet in the region almost as a sacred cow that must be left inviolate. At the same time it talks outright about its naval forces' superiority, which is indeed in line with the state of affairs in the region. Where is the elementary logic, then? They demand, for instance, that we give up the asymmetry in tanks in Europe. At the same time the U.S. Navy's superiority in the Pacific and Indian Oceans is not even subject to discussion!

The United States has still not abandoned the stance of neoglobalism or, I would say, even neohegemonism to which it clings. Today they still reckon that their flag must be displayed everywhere—and not only displayed. Washington would like to guarantee arrangements according with U.S interests. But this stance contradicts other states' interests.

I would like to dwell on yet another aspect of the Soviet initiatives. We are proposing, figuratively speaking, to "swap" the U.S. bases in the Philippines for the Soviet fleet's technical supply station at Cam Ranh. We are told that this is an unfair deal. However, let's finish our digression into the past. Speaking at Vladivostok, M.S. Gorbachev said that if the United States were to abandon its military presence in the Philippines, we would not fail to make a fitting response. We were swamped with questions right away: What did this mean? At the same time the Western press was talking about the tremendous "danger" that Cam Ranh posed to the United States. But now that we have made the quite specific proposal to abandon Cam Ranh in exchange for the Philippines bases, we are told once again that this is unacceptable.

Well, there's no need to give up on this. If our initiatives don't totally succeed, that doesn't mean that we're facing an impenetrable wall. That's not the case. Presumably, if anyone had ventured to predict the current turnaround in Western public opinion in our favor 3 years ago, we probably wouldn't have believed it.

Incidentally, some people in the USSR wrote and said that we could not reach an agreement with the Reagan administration. But they were mistaken.

[Skalkin] What new opportunities are opening up with regard to stabilizing the international situation in the region?

[Primakov] The settlement of regional conflicts accords with this task. It is a big question. In particular, a model has taken shape which may facilitate settlements in other "hotspots."

I am referring to the Afghan example, which could be useful in other situations and other places. For instance, in Cambodia. Of course, this does not mean sidestepping the rules, as is happening in Afghanistan, where the United States and Pakistan are systematically violating the Geneva agreements; it is the mainline concept for a settlement. It provides for an understanding among the external forces involved in the conflict and, on the other hand, creates a foundation on which the internal forces

can reach agreement. This foundation is national reconciliation and the creation of a coalition government. That is, a plan for a settlement is at hand.

[Skalkin] The question of the Korean peninsula was also raised at the Vladivostok conference....

[Primakov] What M.S. Gorbachev had to say in Krasnoyarsk regarding South Korea did indeed attract very great attention. Our position here is honest and principled. We oppose any actions that could create obstacles to the unification of Korea. Supporting our ally's position on this question, we do not regard South Korea as our diplomatic or even our political partner. At the same time we must take account of the reality. The reality is that South Korea is a fast-growing economic organism. All the world's other countries, including China, are also considering this.

[Skalkin] What was the conference' reaction to the economic problems of the Asia-Pacific region that were raised in the Krasnoyarsk speech?

[Primakov] A most animated dialogue unfolded in the economic affairs discussion group. Questions of the development of the Soviet Far East and Siberia were the focus of attention. We are part of the Pacific region, which has become the center of world development. Today it is demonstrating the most rapid rates of economic growth and scientific and technical progress. I am talking not only about Japan or about the west coast of the United States but also about the so-called economic "tigers"—South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia are developing rapidly. A state's strength is determined less and less by its military might alone. The United States could not become great until it had really opened up its own west. This has occurred mainly since World War II.

In the course of the Vladivostok meeting and dialogue, many people drew attention to the following paradox: The Soviet Far East—that vast, very rich territory—has a population of 7 million. So we need to resolve the problem, and this can only be done by developing the region so that the population is distributed more evenly throughout the territory of the Soviet Union.

The meeting has shown that both Soviet and foreign participants there are aware of this task, and this is of no small importance. This was clearly heard in Mikhail Sergeyevich's speech. The development of Siberia and the Far East is linked with the broadening of its foreign economic ties to a greater degree than any other region of the Soviet Union. It is even true to say that the area must fit into the wider region's international division of labor not only as part of the Soviet Union but also in effect independently, through coastal border trade and through the creation of joint enterprises. The specific proposals in M.S. Gorbachev's speech on this score were of the greatest interest to our partners from the region. But there must be no euphoria here. We must mainly develop our eastern borders ourselves by involving potential partners from other countries.

This could be a mutually advantageous matter because we are talking about an area that has rich stocks of raw materials. We are now exporting a considerable part of these stocks unprocessed. The creation of a raw materials processing industry is one very important dimension. We also have great achievements in marine biotechnology. We could embark on the implementation of joint projects in the sphere of agriculture and construction, notably by recruiting a foreign work force. Of course, the Soviet Union is interested in developing machine building and the infrastructure.

[Skalkin] The fact that the international forum was held in Vladivostok met with interest. Do you think that the port of Vladivostok should be opened?

[Primakov] I have no doubt that the city should be opened completely. I don't think that the city should be out of bounds just because the Soviet Pacific Fleet headquarters is in Vladivostok. The Soviet Armed Forces General Staff is in Moscow; should Moscow be closed? Incidentally, Mikhail Sergeyevich's address to the conference stressed that Vladivostok was founded as a gateway and should be a gateway, that is, open.

[Skalkin] Can the Vladivostok conference definitely be said to have reflected the situation that has taken shape in this region, where the trend toward developing cooperation is becoming stronger?

[Primakov] The conference aroused great interest and support. The representatives at the meeting were very prestigious and the interest was clear. This was due, above all, to the attention being paid to our policy in the Asia-Pacific region.

The conference was successful because it was organized well by the people in Vladivostok. The general amicability and such heartfelt openness even before they opened the city shows how favorable the conditions were for the success of the conference.

Of course, the success of the conference was also ensured by the fact that the debate was quite free. There was no exchange of mutual claims and reproaches. We need to know one another. Although positions on many questions naturally did not coincide, the participants in the debate spoke constructively and clearly.

Vladivostok Meeting, Cambodian Issue Viewed

OW0710125188 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 5 Oct 88

[Solton commentary]

[Text] A seminar on the Asia-Pacific situation was held in Vladivostok in the Soviet Far East. Political and social activists, scientists, and (?monks) from 36 countries took

part in the discussions. The Soviet proposal for strengthening security and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, which was put forth by Gorbachev in his speech in Krasnoyarsk in Siberia last month, was the center of attention. The Soviet leader said: We have given top priority to the question of eliminating conflicts and confrontation and checking militarism. It is symbolic to note that participants in the Vladivostok seminar stressed that it is necessary to eliminate the hotspots, first of all, in the Asia-Pacific region, and that the Cambodian question is one of the hot points. What progress has been made in solving this question? Following is our station commentator Solton's view on the question:

Kabul's announcement on the national reconciliation policy and the subsequent signing of agreements in Geneva for mediating the situation surrounding Afghanistan have exerted a favorable influence on the Cambodian situation and have brought about realistic prospects for solving the conflict through political means. As far as this question is concerned, I would like to first of all express my admiration for the Cambodian leaders who have approved dialogue with the opposition forces. The decision jointly made by Phnom Penh and Hanoi to withdraw Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia has also produced a positive influence. Members of the Association of Southeast Asia Nations have made their share of contributions to bringing an end to the conflict. In short, positive changes have taken place.

Of course, I am not overly optimistic. The road leading toward normalization of the situation in Southeast Asia is a tortuous one. But what is important is that the process has already started. The four-party unofficial meeting on the Cambodian question, held recently in Jakarta, has become an important event. The first meeting of experts will be held there on 17 October to discuss specific details for the mediation work. Leader of the Cambodian Government Hun Sen met with Sihanouk, one of the opposition leaders, in Paris on 5 October. This indicates that dialogue has been continued.

In my opinion, the settlement of the question will, to a fairly large extent, depend on direct talks between China and Vietnam. The Soviet Union has maintained contacts with China on the Cambodian question. In his Krasnoyarsk speech, Gorbachev said: The outcome of the contacts is positive. The Soviet Union is willing to do its utmost to facilitate a speedy conclusion of agreements on the Cambodian question because peaceful settlement of this question and mediation of the Afghan conflict are the necessary conditions for guaranteeing peace and mutually beneficial cooperation in Asia.

Bloc Academics Discuss Renewal of Socialism

PM1110123988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 88 First Edition p 4

[A. Krushinskiy report: "On the Path of Renewal"]

[Text] The international scientific conference "Topical Problems of Contemporary Socialism" completed its work on 6 October.

The committee discussing problems of the theory and practice of socialist economic activity and the experience of economic reforms aroused perhaps the most interest.

The first thing that strikes you is the frankness of most of the speakers. A number of speeches by economists, sociologists, and lawyers from Hungary, Vietnam, Mongolia, Poland, the USSR, and the CSSR noted the serious difficulties that economic reform is encountering. Various reasons were adduced. Thus F. Valenta, deputy head of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, describing the failure of the three reforms previously undertaken in his country, noted that each time the changes affected the "periphery" rather than the core of the economic mechanism. The practice of state planning was left as it was and as a result, departmental lack of coordination remained and attempts to boost the independence of grassroots links came to nothing. It is administrative-edict methods of planning that are the main brake on the path of reform—that was the opinion of I. Iliyev, deputy head of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (incidentally, he was chairman of Bulgaria's Gosplan in the recent past). Vietnamese academic Pham Van Pho, who focused attention on the need for profound knowledge and broad practical utilization of objective economic laws, described old, outmoded cost-based methods of economic activity as the "bureaucratically centralized supply mechanism." The speeches made by GDR representatives, in particular that by J. Raab, who gave a detailed description of the mechanism for introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress at GDR combines, aroused great interest among the participants. "We are ardent fans of Soviet restructuring," one Hungarian delegation member said from the rostrum. "Under the influence of your successes we could make further progress in deepening the reform of the economic mechanism in our country." For their part Academicians A.G. Aganbegyan and L.I. Abalkin, who spoke during the debates, noted, in particular, that Soviet social scientists value highly and study attentively the experience of their colleagues from fraternal countries, which constitutes a valuable contribution to the store of experience of world socialism.

Vivid and frank debates also took place in the three other committees and within the framework of the two "roundtables."

At the final session, the results of the conference' work were summed up and opinions exchanged on questions of international cooperation among socialist countries' social scientists.

There is no doubt that the international scientific conference held in Moscow made an important contribution to the cause of generalizing the experience of building and renewing socialist society.

United States & Canada

Chernyshev on Taft Remarks at Rome News Briefing

LD1110192188 Moscow TASS in English 1833 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—By Vladimir Chernyshev, TASS analyst on military affairs:

William Taft, U.S. first deputy secretary of defense, making a tour across Western Europe, demands that U.S. allies increase appropriations for military purposes. Addressing a press conference in Rome, the Pentagon representative spoke of the need for boosting defense spendings, since a danger was allegedly coming from the East.

What can be said on this point? The demand for a rise in military budgets and its "substantiation" do not conform to the spirit of our times in any way. First nuclear missiles were already dispatched to junkyard, and real possibilities emerged for ensuring European security on basically new principles: mutual account for legitimate interests of one another, principles of peaceful coexistence, replacement of the ruinous arms race with fruitful cooperation in the interests of all European nations. Now the European policy centres on the task of lowering sharply military confrontation between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO and getting down, without delay, to specific steps so as to bring European military arsenals to a minimum, necessary for the needs of defence.

Drafting of a mandate for talks on cutting armed forces and armaments in Europe is drawing to an end, and these talks can be started even this year. Moreover, French President Francois Mitterrand holds (and the USSR backed his idea) that it is possible to achieve in the next two years practical lowering of the levels of military confrontation in Europe and elimination of disbalances and asymmetries in armed forces of the two alliances.

Taking into account the present political situation and broad opportunities opening before European countries, it is justifiable to put the following question in connection with the tasks of Taft's mission: does the Pentagon really need elimination of disbalances and asymmetries, as well as mutual cuts in armed forces and armaments in Europe? If it needs, then how can this be tallied with its demands to U.S. allies for boosting military budgets?

As for a "threat from the East", this question could be clarified through acceptance of a proposal advanced by the Warsaw Treaty states to exchange detailed data on armed forces and armaments and to verify official data supplied by the sides. But this proposal is not to the Pentagon's liking. We have not received so far any positive reply to it. It is "more convenient" for the Pentagon to make biassed and groundless allegations on "threats" and to demand, on this mythical basis, "increases", "intensification", etc. What will U.S. representatives do at future negotiations? They evidently hope to drag their feet at the future forum, as was the case with the Vienna talks on cutting armed forces and armaments in central Europe, and to continue the arms race behind the screen of talks.

It is long overdue to understand a very simple fact: If a real breakthrough is not achieved in the next few years on the question of cutting armed forces and armaments in Europe, the process of nuclear disarmament can also be seriously hampered and, consequently, achievement of reliable security in Europe and all over the world.

Foreign Ministry 'Expert' Cited

LD1110194288 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—Expert of the USSR Foreign Ministry Pavel Vorobev writes:

Is it appropriate to make calls to Europe for the increase of military expenditures now? This question will hardly elicit an affirmative answer from many in the East or in the West. Nevertheless such a call has just been made. It came from U.S. First Deputy Secretary of Defence William Taft who addressed a news conference in Rome where he stopped over to discuss with his Italian colleague Giuseppe Pisano the question of the sharing out of duties among NATO countries and financial contribution to the budget of the North Atlantic alliance. One can form of a whole collection of pronouncements of NATO and particularly U.S. leaders dating from, say, 1980, 1975, or 1960 about the need to increase military spending. True, this time a high-ranking offiical of the U.S. Department of Defence noted that U.S. officials are aware of the changes taking place in the Soviet Union. But he added in the same breath that these changes have not affected strategic plans of the defence of countries of the East, so that the danger persists. Hence the need to increase defence spending.

Still the U.S. emissary will not find it easy to convince Europeans. The tendency toward the increase of military expenditures ceased to be the decisive one in Europe in the recent year. And the U.S. Congress is no longer as lavish as it was several years ago. A new atmosphere being established in the world as a result of the first arrangements in the area of real disarmament increasingly contradicts with ritual warnings about the menace from the East. And it is not only the atmosphere that is the point of the matter. A political statement about exclusively defensive character of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Treaty countries, is borne out by a number of measures of a military-technical character being fully in keeping with the principles proclaimed by that doctrine. Specifically, changes are made in the character of military exercises of the Warsaw Treaty countries, tasks of conducting defensive operations are emphasised in the training of forces.

In line with this are concrete proposals of the Soviet Union and its allies for the elimination of asymmetry in conventional armed forces and armaments, their reduction to the level precluding the possibility of a surprise attack and of conducting offensive operations. Incidentally, the Warsaw Treaty countries are prepared to exchange detailed data on the correlation of forces in Europe in the framework of the forthcoming negotiations on this problem and even prior to their opening. And they in NATO apparently realise that such official data would refute many postulates about the "Soviet military menace." What else can explain a very cool attitude of the West to this proposal.

However, on the whole there are prerequisites for advance in arms reductions in Europe. And when this advance starts, it will undoubtedly be even more difficult to promote the idea of the build-up of military spending.

U.S. Officials 'Sweep Aside' Krasnoyarsk Ideas

PM0710100788 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Oct 88 First Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Pertinent Remarks": "An Extreme Desire To Freeze"]

[Text] It looks as if one enterprising American's scheme is likely to come to nothing. Someone called Tim Diamond thought of collecting icebergs off the Alaska coast and selling the ice at a profit to Asian countries, mainly Japan. Now, however, he has acquired powerful competitors who evidently intend to literally fill the entire Asian-Pacific region with ice. This ice, to be more specific, is of a peculiar variety. It is the ice of confrontation, left over in Washington from the "cold war" times. Heaps of it poured off the pages of THE NEW YORK TIMES a few days ago.

An excuse for this was provided by the USSR's Krasnoyarsk initiatives. Washington found itself in a state of confusion for a little while after they were put forward. Responding to journalists' questions, U.S. official spokesmen told them that the Soviet proposals were being analyzed and that patience was called for. And now, patience has paid off... THE NEW YORK TIMES published an article signed jointly by two high-ranking administration officials: Assistant Secretary of State Sigur and Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Armitage. Each is in charge of the Asia-Pacific region in his department. But the article does not contain even a hint of professional analysis of the situation in Asia or of the Soviet proposals. Just the ice of confrontation. Just the desire to use it to freeze the readers' eyes and ears.

Judge for yourselves. Almost in the very first lines the authors present conditions to be met by our country. If the USSR wants to play a constructive role in Asia, they declare, then "Moscow has to pay the admission price." They go on to explain that this price primarily means unilateral reduction by the Soviet Union of its Armed Forces and curtailment of aid to the SRV and the DPRK. This entire passage is structured according to cannons accepted during the "cold war" time. It seems as if people in Washington have still not realized that our country plays a positive role in the Asia-Pacific region without having to pay any "prices." Convincing proof of this can be seen in the approval with which the Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk initiatives were greeted in many Asian and Pacific countries.

As regards the "price" itself, it is well known that the Soviet Union does not reject a reduction of its armed forces, provided it is done on a reciprocal basis with the United States. And this is what neither Sigur nor Armitage wishes to accept. They sweep aside all Soviet proposals straight off, trying to prove that their implementation is only to our country's advantage. As for the gaps in their own arguments, they try to cover them up with groundless accusations. According to their interpretation, talks on not increasing naval forces would be advantageous for the Soviets, which have supposedly increased their number of warships in the Far East. Moreover, they prefer to overlook the universally recognized fact that the United States is superior to the USSR in the Asia-Pacific region in terms of virtually all naval force components. For example, the Pentagon has seven aircraft carriers there. It enjoys tenfold superiority in carrier aviation. The United States is 27 times superior to the USSR in terms of Marine Corps strength.

Resorting to downright fabrications, Armitage and Sigur slip up and reveal why they need them. It appears that the implementation of the Soviet proposals could obstruct the buildup of Japan's navy. And this is what the United States has been after for a long time, hoping to assign to Japan some of the aggressive functions now performed close to the Soviet border by the U.S. 7th Fleet.

The Washington strategists also dislike the Soviet proposal to hold multilateral consultations on the reduction of military confrontation in the region where the coastlines of the USSR, the PRC, Japan, the DPRK, and South Korea come close together. They perceive in it a "treacherous plan" by the Russians. In their words, the Soviet Union has built up ground forces in the region, and this is apparently why it is prepared to reach accord on reducing air force and naval levels in order to consolidate its superiority. And this is said at a time when the Soviet side has repeatedly indicated that the USSR has not been building up its ground forces in Asia for some time now. But Sigur and Armitage are not bothered about the truth.

The authors of the article are clearly annoyed by the USSR's unilateral pledge not to build up the quantity of its nuclear weapons in the region—the Pentagon's military projects appear only too unseemly against this background. Not knowing how to discredit the Soviet stance, Armitage and Sigur resort to yet another slander: The USSR is apparently deploying in the European part of the country missiles that "can also reach Asia."

But the article makes it clear that its authors are most upset by the Soviet declaration of readiness to vacate the logistical support point in Cam Ranh Bay on the SRV's territory if the United States agrees to eliminate its bases in the Philippines. This is where the U.S. strategists' thinking performs an amazing about-turn. It appears that the USSR proposal...undermines the sovereignty of the Philippines. Not Washington which has maintained its advanced positions there for several decades now, but the USSR which proposes their elimination. "Adjustments in basing arrangements can be made only by joint agreement," Sigur and Armitage lecture in a scornful tone. How can the Russians, after all, appreciate the sheer delicacy of U.S. relations with its ally? But the whole point is that there is no delicacy at all at stake. Fruitless talks have been going on between Washington and Manila for months now. The United States, never hesitating to use blackmail and pressure, is trying to force the Philippines leadership to agree to an extension of the base agreements. As for the Philippines Government, its spokesmen have repeatedly declared: The U.S. advanced positions do not in any way strengthen the country's security.

What does THE NEW YORK TIMES article prove? Primarily—and this is no cause for joy—that so far Washington is unwilling to examine the situation in the region from constructive positions. Furthermore, it is unwilling to see other countries examining it in this way. This is why it tries to frighten them with the "Soviet military threat." But such a policy is hardly likely to succeed. The international climate is getting steadily warmer. And this process cannot be halted by the confrontation icemen.

Matveyev Rebuts U.S. Case for Overseas Bases

PM1110115188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 88 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Vikentiy Matveyev "Political Observer's Opinion": "From Spain to the Philippines"]

[Text] It seems that in geographical terms the United States is not a continental state but an island and is in a vulnerable position with regard to its supplies of raw materials from abroad. To safeguard the transportation of raw materials the United States needs more than 1,500 military bases and facilities on the territory of 34 countries and has to keep more than 500,000 of its military servicemen permanently "overseas"...

That was U.S. Defense Secretary F. Carlucci's interpretation of the point of America's overseas military presence in a speech he made recently. "The United States," he said, "as an island state dependent on stocks of raw materials from other countries, must continue the forward-based deployment of its forces in Asia and the Pacific. There is no cheaper way of safeguarding America's security."

But here is something strange. For some reason the "raw materials" factor is of greatest interest to the Pentagon in those countries on the approaches to us and the socialist countries. After all, most U.S. military bases are located in Western Europe in the immediate vicinity of the borders of the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact states. In the FRG alone there are around 200 large U.S. bases and facilities.

Another question which springs to mind is: Why for the operation of the normal trade ties whereby the United States obtains raw materials abroad is it necessary to have such a dense global network of military bases with arsenals of nuclear weapons?

There are many questions, and they increase as the mood grows in the United States in favor of a substantial reduction in the military presence in other countries. That mood is growing stronger within the Congress. Despite White House pressure Congress is reducing the appropriations for military aid to other states for the upkeep of overseas bases. Pentagon chiefs are finding it increasingly difficult to persuade people of the need to retain them in the form and on the scale typical of the cold war at its height. The upkeep of 500,000 military servicemen outside the United States costs billions of dollars, and the vast U.S. federal budget deficit is no mere bagatelle.

Carlucci's speech shows the degree of the Pentagon hierarchy's opposition to curtailing America's increasingly costly foreign military commitments dictated by the strategy adopted in Washington during the cold war: namely, to encircle the Soviet Union first and foremost with a ring of U.S. bases. Later, as is well known, the framework of that strategy expanded. The Pentagon began to seek to create its own bridgeheads on the approaches to the new independent states pursuing an anti-imperialist course.

It is difficult for fresh breezes to penetrate the gigantic complex of the U.S. Defense Department in the Washington suburbs. However, it is impossible for it to be fully insulated against them. This also applies to the problem of the military presence on foreign territories. During the 30 years at least that the far-flung system of military bases has existed, Washington has considered the situation immutable and not subject to adjustment.

Were this totally dependent on the top U.S. military officials now they would not have permitted the least doubt about the Pentagon's need for such a global network to enable it to conduct the "forward-based strategy"—that is, to maintain an impressive quantity of military forces on the approaches to the socialist states and to a number of developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

However, that is less and less in Washington's power. Since the early sixties nine countries have refused to extend their agreements with the United States on bases.

Quite a modest figure in view of the length of time. But it is indicative. Particularly for the period ahead. From Spain to the Philippines a process is beginning now that may be termed not only a social movement in favor of removing military bases on foreign territory and of sending home all troops stationed abroad but also a movement raised to a state level.

Our country is prepared for the most radical solutions in this sphere and has submitted the corresponding practical recommendations based on the principles of reciprocity even though, of course, we do not compare with the United States in this respect. We have nothing like the network of U.S. military bases. Nevertheless, we are ready to meet the United States halfway on the questions that cause concern there over the presence of our—limited—forces abroad.

At the moment Washington does not want this question put on the agenda of Soviet-U.S. relations. Movement is visible in another sphere—in U.S. relations with a number of countries where U.S. bases exist. Spain, Greece, the Philippines— those countries' governments have officially raised the question of the future of the U.S. bases on their territory. The talks are taking place in a difficult atmosphere. For understandable reasons. Washington is afraid that even modest U.S. concessions might cause a chain reaction. Spain, for example, has already achieved something. The Pentagon was not slow to act and quickly managed to negotiate with the Italian Government on the transfer of the U.S. F-16's there from Spain.

Such a "rebasing" ["perebazirovka"] in no way diminishes the acuteness of the problem—and this is true not only of relations among the aforementioned three countries. In the FRG the political climate is changing noticeably with regard to the large U.S. military bases stationed there. The recent catastrophe at the U.S. base at Ramstein, when many lives were lost during a military air show, fueled the mood among the population—and elsewhere—for a review of the terms of the agreements under which the U.S. military presence in the FRG has acquired such a scale. A correspondent of the West German weekly DIE ZEIT in conversation with General Galvin, NATO supreme allied commander, Europe, asked the quite reasonable question: Isn't the large quantity of nuclear weapons deployed in the FRG a burden on ourselves, and shouldn't we therefore get rid of them as soon as possible?

The South Korean press is writing increasingly vociferously on this theme. No wonder then that F. Carlucci noted especially in the aforementioned speech that "the time has not come to withdraw the U.S. troops from South Korea." The Pentagon chief's opinion does not coincide with the growing mood in South Korea itself.

Of course, it would be wrong to create the impression that all these facts signal that an irreversible process of reducing the U.S. military presence in other countries has begun. At the moment these are just glimmerings on the horizon. But as these are not isolated events but the kind which constitute a definite system, they should not be ignored. They may herald more significant changes.

U.S. Position on Philippine Bases Criticized

LD0710230788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 7 Oct 88

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Boris Andrianov]

[Text] Here is a report from Manila:

[Unidentified correspondent] Corazon Aquino, the Philippine president, stated that at the meeting with Michael Armacost, U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, they discussed the Soviet proposal on the material and technical provision of the fleet in the Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam and of the U.S. military bases in the Philippine archipelago. Talking to a local newspaper correspondent, Corazon Aquino pointed out that the U.S. and the Philippines must discuss the U.S. bases.

The same report says that Armacost has also met journalists. He stated that in light of the Soviet initiatives that have an influence on the Asian and Pacific ocean region, a stronger strategic alliance is needed between the United States and the Philippines. I will put it bluntly, the U.S. diplomat draws quite original conclusions from the new Soviet proposals put forward by Comrade Gorbachev in Krasnoyarsk. Surely, our initiatives are aimed at the stabilization of the situation to attain peace in the region. Yet, Michael Armacost, knowing them, calls for strengthening of military cooperation between the United States and the Philippines. On these grounds he has spoken against the elimination of the U.S. bases on Philippine land. Incidentally, talks between Manila and Washington on the further fate of these Pentagon bases have now reached an impasse.

Reagan Signs Order for Aid to Contras

LD1110174688 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Washington October 11 TASS—TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

President Reagan has signed an executive order which makes it possible to resume "humanitarian" aid to the Nicaraguan contras. The U.S. Congress has allocated 27 million dollars for these purposes under the budget of the 1989 fiscal year.

Under the U.S. legislation the Nicaraguan Contra forces were to cease to receive "humanitarian" aid from the United States on September 30 when the previous fiscal year officially expired.

The newly signed executive order authorises the U.S. secretary of defence, acting in cooperation with the Agency for International Development, to resume the delivery of various "non-military" equipment to the contras.

Hollywood Backing for Dukakis Campaign Noted

PM1110154988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent L. Koryavin report: "Hollywood's Election Campaign Effort"]

[Text] Washington—Hardly had the morning mist over Los Angeles dispersed than an unusual convoy left the city. Several brightly colored buses accompanied by police cars with their blue lights flashing confidently eased their way along the highway, already packed tight with motor vehicles. The police cars stopped at the city boundary and the convoy continued further along the roads of California.

Famous faces from Hollywood were in the buses. Fifty celebrities were setting off on an unusual tour, accompanied by vast numbers of personnel, including the personal bodyguards every "star" has. Ahead lay stops in California's cities, large and small, and also in the neighboring states of Oregon and Washington. On this occasion they would be promoting not themselves but Michael Dukakis, the Democratic contender for president in this year's elections. Hollywood—or at least some of its "stars"—has entered the election campaign on the side of the Democratic Party representative.

Gregory Peck—one of the people taking part in the tour—told reporters: "We are not passive observers. Our aim is to ensure that as many people as possible who intend to vote for Michael register."

Naturally, the Hollywood "stars" will not act as substitutes for the functionaries responsible for registering voters, but their publicity contribution to the Dukakis campaign promises to be great. "It is rather like showing the audience, in this case the electorate, a publicity movie 'Vote Dukakis!'" one journalist remarked. "What is more, famous Hollywood 'stars' will be cast in it." In addition to this, voters will have the opportunity to shake hands with their heroes and get their autographs. This always attracts Americans.

The next publicity move is up to the Republicans. This party also has plenty of "devotees" in Hollywood. Like the rest of the country, Hollywood is also divided into two camps these days. At the moment people are saying that Bush is being advertised by an actor who could throw down a challenge to the whole of Hollywood on a political level—President Reagan himself.

Time will tell who will outdo whom.

Cut in Funding Reflects Doubts Over SDI

PM1010134188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Less Funding for SDI"]

[Text] Washington, 7 Oct—The U.S. Defense Department has announced changes in the first phase of implementing SDI.

It is primarily a question of cutting expenditure on the creation of a space-based interceptor missile system, reducing the number of such missiles, and modifying the system of satellites tracking and guiding these missiles. The overall cost of the first phase of SDI has been cut from $150 billion to $69 billion.

Pentagon representatives officially insist that the current changes to the first phase of SDI "certainly do not mean" that the administration is deviating from the program's original aim: to create an "impenetrable space shield." But, as THE WASHINGTON POST points out, the decision to reduce the budget for the first phase of SDI reflects a widespread conviction that the United States cannot implement the program in the form presented by Reagan now.

China

Premier Li Peng Rebuts 'Capitalist' Charge

PM1110141188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Following the Course of Reforms"]

[Text] Beijing, 7 Oct—There will be no change in the course of further implementation of reforms in China, even though some amendments may be introduced in specific methods and measures. This was declared here by Li Peng, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo Standing Committee and premier of the PRC State Council, during a meeting with former FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

The main avenue of reforms, approved by the recent CPC Central Committee plenum, consists in consolidating economic order, reducing the level of inflation, and deepening all-around reforms with a view to ensuring the national economy's stable development on a healthy basis, the Chinese leader said.

In this context, the premier of the PRC State Council said that some foreigners show "incomprehension" of what is happening in China. They believe that the PRC is practicing a capitalist market economy. Li Peng pointed out that, in parallel with the implementation of reforms, China counts on engaging the market economy mechanism in economic life while attaching priority

importance to the planned path of development. This means the practical implementation of a socialist, planned, commodity economy, the Chinese leader stressed.

Touching on questions of the international situation, Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, welcomed the detente occurring in Soviet-U.S. relations.

H. Schmidt was also received by Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission. During the meeting they discussed topical questions of the implementation of all-embracing reforms in China and some aspects of current international politics.

Tereshkova, Delegation Arrive in Beijing

OW0710224688 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] At the invitation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the China-USSR Friendship Association, a delagation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the USSR-China Friendship Society arrived in Beijing on 6 October. The delegation is headed by Tereshkova, chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

In meetings with leaders and activists of the China-USSR Friendship Society, the Soviet delegation will discuss ways to further enhance cooperation between the people's organizations of the two nations. The delegation will also visit Xian and Shanghai.

Received by Chen Muhua

LD0710225788 Moscow TASS in English 1957 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Beijing October 7 TASS—A delegation of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Society of Soviet-Chinese Friendship, led by chairwoman of the Union's Presidium, pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR Valentina Tereshkova, was received today by deputy chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, chairman of the National Federation of Women Chen Muhua.

During a friendly talk Chen Muhua dwelt on the economic reform in China. She noted that women's organisations of the two countries maintained good relations and the exchange of visits of representatives of women's organisations of the People's Republic of China and the USSR promotes better mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and the Soviet peoples.

The Soviet guests also had a meeting with member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, chairman of the people's government of Beijing Chen Xitong.

Direct Trade Between Taiwan, Moscow Discussed

AU1010181388 Paris AFP in English 1724 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, Oct 10 (AFP)—A delegation of 60 Taiwanese businessmen, the first to visit the Soviet Union since the 1949 Chinese revolution, has discussed opening direct trade links with Moscow, a member of the delegation told AFP Monday.

Contacted by telephone in Kiev, the delegation member, who declined to be identified, said that the Taiwanese found a "positive" response in Moscow after meeting with representatives of the timber, chemicals and garment industries.

At present, trade between Taiwan and the Soviet Union passes through third countries, such as Japan, Singapore or Hong Kong, in the absence of diplomatic relations. Last year, indirect bilateral trade stood at 7.52 million dollars.

The delegation member said the Taiwanese were also exploring the possibility of using different third countries for trade purposes.

Asked about the possibility of opening diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, the representative said: "not so fast", stressing that the visit was arranged to build up initial contacts with the Soviet side.

The Soviet Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday arranged a "round table" for the Taiwanese with Soviet trade officials. A Chamber of Commerce spokesman told AFP that no "concrete ideas" were discussed at the "informal" meeting.

The delegation is on a "private" trip through the Soviet state tourism agency Intourist.

After holding talks with the Chamber of Commerce in Kiev, the Ukraine capital, the delegation will also visit Minsk (Belorussia) and Leningrad before leaving on October 18 after a two-week stay in the Soviet Union.

Near East & South Asia

Rebels, Plastic Explosives Move Into Kabul Area

PM1210094188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 88 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Oliynik report: "Four Minutes Before the Explosion. Soviet Fighters From the Kabul Traffic Control Service Prevented Rebels' Crime"; last two grafs are unattributed postscript]

[Text] At first no one paid attention to the wreck of an automobile parked by the sidewalk near the Kabul stadium. Only Private P. Matyushin, who was on sentry

duty near the Soviet commandant's office, was suspicious about the abandoned automobile. Following his report, commander Lieutenant Colonel A. Gerasimenko decided to call the demolition experts. They discovered a cache in the automobile of approximately 100kg of plastic explosive—a most powerful type—linked to a timer. There were only 4 minutes left before it was due to explode....

"One can easily imagine the dreadful consequences of detonating that much plastic explosive, which is 1.5-2 times more powerful than the TNT that terrorists used to use," Lt Col Gerasimenko told me. "This is not the first time that we and the sarandoy—the people's militia—have discovered this explosive. At the beginning of September, for instance, a truck was seized coming from Peshawar. It had 1.5 tonnes of plastic explosive on board, carefully camouflaged as automobile tires. Recently a 15kg charge of plastic explosive was found by our patrols working with a detail of the people's militia on the busy 1 May Boulevard. The terrorists' trail continues to lead to Pakistan. We have found out that special subversive terrorist groups armed with state-of-the-art weapons have been sent into many districts of Kabul Province on orders from the 'Peshawar Seven.' They include special representatives of the Islamic parties' military organizations and also foreign military advisers, who are supposed to coordinate subversive work to destabilize the situation in Kabul at local level. Together with operational people's militia detachments our traffic control service is taking all steps to prevent terrorist acts in the city...."

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent reports that the Afghan Army General Staff has in the last few years captured more than 140,000 rocket projectiles, approximately 100 launchers, and also more than 12,000kg of foreign explosives from the rebels as a result of the operation carried out by the republic's armed forces to prevent terrorist acts and bombings in Kabul and the country's other administrative centers.

Due to the Soviet soldier's vigilance, the death-dealing consignment did not explode this time in a busy quarter of Kabul. Terrorist training centers are still operating on Pakistani territory contrary to the Geneva agreements. Convoys carrying weapons and explosives are still flooding in from there.

Life for Troops Along Salang-Kabul Road Described

LD1110231888 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul October 11 TASS—TASS correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy reports:

The journalistic saying that the Hayraton-Salang-Kabul highway is "the road of life" still remains true for the Afghan capital.

Convoys of Soviet and Afghan lorries carrying literally everything the people of Kabul need—flour, sugar, rice, lubricants, and machinery—ride along the major highway from Termez on the Soviet bank of the Amu Darya to Kabul day and night.

The wellbeing of Kabul with a population of two million depends in many respects on this highway. If it is cut off, it would be extremely more difficult to bring supplies to the Afghan capital. The most important portion of the highway is Salang, one of the world's highest passes with its more than two kilometres long tunnel hewn in the rock, with galleries which protect it from winter-time avalanches, and with ice-covered treacherous winding roads, and with a constant threat of attacks on the part of intransigent extremists.

The life of the Soviet soldiers posted along the road is difficult and full of dangers. Suffice it to say that there is not a single post or picket of Afghan troops at a distance of ten kilometres away from Kabul. There are only red-flagged stone fortifications with gun-ports and positions for tanks and armoured personnel carriers (APC). There are only Soviet soldiers in armoured vests and helmets on duty in tanks with guns pointing in the direction of the green zone—the refuge of the extremist groups.

Between Jabal os Diraj near the foothills of the western Hindu Kush and Salang, there is a picket every 1.5-2 kilometres, and blocks consisting of tanks and APC's at every 150-300 metres at highway bends, and posts at commanding features of the ground.

Lately the 'intransigents' avoid open attacks on Soviet posts. They know that a retaliatory strike would be crushing. Even two branches of the pipeline supplying kerosene and straw oil to Kabul have not been sabotaged for three months now.

The first snow fell on Salang two weeks ago. The higher our APC rode uphill along the tortuous road on the rim of the Salang river valley, the autumn weather at Hindu Kush became increasingly felt and the dry snow became more copious. We rode past avalanche control galleries on our way to the tunnel where we were met by Soviet soldiers. The conditions in which they serve are the hardest. Apart from extremists' raids which have become habitual, the soldiers are also plagued by winter-time avalanches which disrupt the road traffic, which immediately tells on the situation in Kabul. Salang is the point which tells on the situation throughout Afghanistan.

Once a shortage of food was felt in Kabul for several days. Rumours immediately began to spread to the effect that the Russians were unable to control the road to the pass and that the road was allegedly cut off by detachments led by Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, and that immediately told on prices.

However, rumours proved false. There was no hitch at Salang. Up to 1,100 Afghan lorries and 350 Soviet ones, on an average, ride in the direction of Kabul every day. And this is not a limit. There were days when up to 2,700 vehicles rode in one direction.

According to the tunnel's "traffic procedure", one day it serves the South-North direction and on the other day it serves the North-South direction. One morning I watched the movement of convoys towards Kabul. They were led by Soviet vehicles, followed by Afghan ones—tank trucks and lorries—under the guard of APC's. Then came private cars and taxies.

The road—which is so beautiful and, it would seem, a peaceful one—now and again disproves this illusory impression. Along the entire highway one can come across the frames of damaged and burnt lorries, tank cars or buses. When approaching Kabul, one could see Afghan mortars and tanks methodically shelling an abandoned village where counter-revolutionaries were in hiding.

Upon my return to Kabul I learned that at the city bazaar—the "political barometer" of the capital—the prices of oil, flour, rice and other foodstuffs markedly declined, and queues at filling stations disappeared. This means that the barometer at Salang pass, despite the approaching winter, indicated "clear".

TV Shows Kabul-Salang Road

LD0910225188 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Oct 88

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] And now, another subject, a sore one for us all, Afghanistan. Alas, the situation there remains complex. Yet the last stage of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country is to begin soon. Last week brought with it news of fresh attacks by opposition groups, of fresh missile attacks on towns. And then the opposition forces are waging a constant campaign of disinformation every day about the true state of affairs in Afghanistan.

[Correspondent M. Leshchinskiy, identified by screen caption] In the last months Kabul has been full of thousands of rumors. Some of them are local, home-grown, so to say, and they are brought in by traders from all corners of the country. Others are the free children of the airwaves. Various West European, U.S., Arab, and Asian radio voices broadcast to Afghanistan for nearly 150 hours per week. Endless gossiping by ignorant, illiterate people, all this mingles, creating a generally negative attitude to the situation that has arisen in the country, and sometimes even inciting people to unthought out actions of panic. All the more so in that sometimes actual facts set off the avalanche of inventions: for example, the almost daily shelling of Kabul which take more and more dozens of lives of citizens. Feelings of uncertainty in the stability of state power are actively maintained by talk alleging that higher party and state officials have been given special passes to flee the country, and that the families of many of them have already traveled abroad.

Against this background the successes of the armed opposition, and its force are being extolled in all sorts of ways. It is being said that there are already lists of those who are to be eliminated after the fall of the current Kabul regime. True, it is being said that you can buy your life by paying several tens of thousands of afghanis for special certificates. Talk like this leads to utter absurdity. Someone over the hills and far away from Kabul suddenly announces on the radio the sensational news that the capital is completely surrounded and cut off from the outside world. There is starvation and epidemic in Kabul, they claim. And all of this is also repeated in the midst of the bazaar stalls that are filled with every conceivable item.

In order not to make unsubstantiated statements, we decided to check this out for ourselves, which is why we set off along one of Afghanistan's most important roads, where I invite you to join us in conducting a sort of television investigation into the state of affairs. [video shows street and market scenes]

This road leads due north from Kabul. It cuts through a fertile valley with its endless vineyards, rises to the snowy passes of the Hindu Kush, and then through the sands of the desert reaches the Amu-Darya, on whose north bank is our country. We left Kabul early in the morning, when this road, which by day is like a vehicle conveyor belt, was still relatively empty. In spite of the temptation to drive in the morning cool, drivers nevertheless prefer the safer daytime hours, and a few minutes after we had left the checkpoint in the last suburb of Kabul we realized that this plan is well founded. To all appearances, the attack on these trucks was carried out not very long ago at all. The remains of the wheels were still smoking, and the bitumen leaking from the barrel pierced by the grenade launcher [as heard] had not hardened. They shot point blank with large-caliber machineguns and grenade launchers and small arms.

Our first thought: what about the Afghan drivers? Killed? Wounded? Taken prisoner? No trace of them. Nor had the load been touched. Indeed, the start of journey has been somber and put us on our guard. Are we to go on? What awaits us? [video shows one burned out truck at the side of the road, as described by Leshchinskiy, and another fully loaded in a field. The burned out one has a few barrels, presumably of bitumen: a sack of cement—contents identified in Russian—lies beside it; the other truck appears to be loaded with such sacks. Leshchinskiy appears to be riding in a tank]

True, these questions were purely rhetorical, expressed only for myself when our vehicle was already moving on. And our resolution was rewarded. Another 10 kilometers and the picture was quite different. A joint Soviet-Afghan

campaign unit [agitotryad] had arrived in the kishlak of Kalakan. Under the conditions here, these units' work is always certain, first and foremost the distribution of free aid to those in special need, according to lists drawn up by the elders. This is truly visible campaigning, though unfortunately not seen through to its end. After all, the help is Soviet, but how would you know that from the plain sacks? No emblems, no writing. But people should know who is helping them with the most essential things. For the odd things get to Afghanistan from the West too, and there they don't forget to put the name of the benefactor country on each tiny thing, like matches or pens. But here are tens of thousands of tonnes of the most valuable items—all nameless.

Strengthened by a solid material basis, important political actions took place there too. The elders and the leaders of the armed units in the subdistrict of Kalakan have signed obligations to put under their protection part of the road passing through their land. The subdistrict center, Kalakan, is situated in the very outcrop of the Hindu Kush. [video shows trucks arriving in village, road flanked by men with guns: trucks being unloaded]

Suddenly, like a theater set, lofty mountains grow at the edge of the great green valley. The road rises steeply up them. And just as sharply a completely different military and political situation appears here. The campaign units cannot enter the roadside mountain kishlaks. The road is immediately cut by warning shots. Armed groups under the general leadership of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, whom the leaders of the opposition have declared to be the commander in chief in northeast Afghanistan, penetrated here in the summer. Under pain of death the inhabitants of these kishlaks on the southern slopes of the Salang passes have been forbidden to accept Soviet aid, or to make any sort of contact with the garrisons of guards or representatives of state power. In effect, these people have become hostages in the hands of the strangers from the Panjshir gorges, where Ahmad Shah has based himself. By force of arms they make them rob freight convoys, make bandit attacks, and build housing for the fighters [boyevik]. Even the Afghan Government detachments have given in to this force and abandoned their posts on the road.

Now it is only our soldiers serving here. [video shows shots of road, mountain villages, burned out vehicles; Soviet soldiers. Leshchinskiy interviews Lieutenant Colonel N.V. Ivanov, identified by caption]

[Leshchinskiy] Nikolay Vasiliyevich, we met here in this place on this road exactly 5 months ago, at the beginning of May before the first stage of the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, and spoke about the situation. What can you say about it now, 5 months later, now that the first stage of the withdrawal has been completed?

[Ivanov] Some very important changes have taken place over that time. First of all, there is the increased activity of the rebels. They have come out to the road, (?cut off) the kishlaks along it, and keep up their excesses: they rob the passing convoys and they terrorize the local population, so the situation is such, if the conclusion can be drawn, that it is fraught with the most [word indistinct] consequences.

[Leshchinskiy] Firmly following the spirit of the Geneva agreements, the Soviet troops do not conduct offensive combat actions here. They are fulfilling only a guarding, defensive function, ready at the same time to respond to any blow. The military and political tasks must be solved by the Afghans themselves and the authority existing in the country.

Meanwhile, simply fantastic meetings happen on the road. Several times we saw at the side of the road or behind the roadside rocks armed people in national costume. There is nothing surprising in the bare fact: A lot of people go armed in Afghanistan. It was something else that was surprising: scowling looks, malevolent wariness, readiness to open fire at any moment. We stopped at one of these groups. Unlike their compatriots, who like to pose for the cameras, these started to turn their backs, and demanded that we should stop filming. And on the other side of the mountain stream was another group. The barrels of their machineguns and automatic rifles are visible through the bushes. An unarmed man came from there, as if to parley. I tried to speak to him, even get an interview perhaps. But the man said only that his boss is Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, and he wouldn't answer any questions without permission. And these people were evidently getting nervous, evidently afraid of being punished for their unintentional contact with Soviet people, and in front of the television cameras to boot. And then, you'll realize, we weren't alone either. In such a situation, even a chance shot could turn into who knows what.

Both this meeting and the whole trip showed that in the current critical situation in Afghanistan any omission by the Kabul authorities, any delay or faintheartedness could immediately change the balance of forces in this or that area. The enemy is strong and must not be underestimated.

As for the rumors about a blockade of Kabul, as you have seen for yourselves, they were not confirmed. Not yet. Time and the real actions of the contending sides will show the rest.

Well, our route ends at this spot. As you can see, we have swallowed quite a bit of dust from the Afghan roads, and it only remains for me to thank the scouts commanded by First Lieutenant Krems for their help. We can really consider you to be the coauthors of our report. So, ahead lies the Salang, beyond it, only a few hundred kilometers it the border of the USSR, but we have to go back to Kabul. You would probably rather be going in the other direction.

[Unidentified soldier] Of course we would. But we will soon be leaving. We should be returning home in February.

[Leshchinskiy] Right. Well, thank you, once again, and here is where I finish my report for today. [video shows what Leshchinskiy describes and ends with a view of several Soviet soldiers in APC's at the side of the road. Leshchinskiy in fatigues, as he has been throughout, his face red with dust, talks to one of them]

Algierian Situation Cuts Short Soviet Days
LD1110174988 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1230 GMT 11 Oct 88

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] Days of the Soviet Union have been under way in Algiers. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, the Days of the Soviet Union which began so successfully in Algiers did not continue further. They were cut short because of the serious worsening of the internal political situation there.

Islamic Fundamentalists Causing Algerian Unrest
PM1110142788 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 8 p 3

[Article by correspondent Aleksandr Zhukov under the rubric "We Report the Details": "The Glow of 'Red Wednesday'"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Mass disturbances occurred a few days ago in the Algerian capital and certain neighboring regions. Blood was shed in the streets for the first time in 26 years of independence. Aleksandr Zhukov, our correspondent in Algiers, describes how the events developed.

The crowd poured through the streets in a dirty gray stream, filling the narrow alleys between buildings and swamping the elegant street lights and telephone booths. En route it came across an enormous city bus and, within a minute, the smoking bus, its windows broken, rammed into the recently looted window of a nearby clothing store. On Place Oden, named for the hero of the liberation war, the central office of the Algerian airline, Air Algeria, was smashed up and recently installed computers, worth several thousand dollars each and linking the Algerian capital with any point on the globe, were turned into a heap of broken glass and twisted metal.

The cry "the banks are set up to rob us" rang out from one side, rocks flew through the windows grilles of the Algerian National Bank, and the thick steel bars on its doors were scarcely able to hold the strain of the hundreds of bodies pressing on them. The youths on the rampage—the age of those taking part in the "demonstration" was not above 22-25—even brought down the memorial to the Algerian people's national hero Amir Abdel Qader, recently erected through public donations. Crushing all before them, the hooligans burst into the Mausoleum to the Fallen Hero, a sacred place for every Algerian, and committed outrages even there.... Blood was shed and people died on the streets of Algiers for the first time in 26 years.

The events of "Red Wednesday," 5 October, were far from spontaneous or unexpected. The preceding week had seen 3- or 4-day strikes in the Algerian capital by workers in the truck-manufacturing complex sited in the Algiers suburb of Rouiba, post and communications, and public transport under slogans calling for improvements in living conditions, a campaign against high prices, and so forth. An enlarged session of a special ministerial commission set up to settle the conflict was held at the prime minister's office on Tuesday, with a large number of cabinet members and trade union leaders taking part in its work. A package of specific measures designed to solve the current problems was drawn up. After the commission completed its work the strikes ended. But... That evening in Bab el-Oued, an area near the port, which since French colonialist times has served as a haven for the unemployed, the dregs of society, peasants who have fled the countryside, and various kinds of criminal elements, fires flared up, the sound of the broken glass of store windows rang out, and the doors of state establishments and services were smashed. During the night the cauldron heated to the point where, by morning, the wave of disturbances had spilled into areas near the center. By midday the disturbances had enveloped the entire city. With cries of "Butter! Meat! Down with the government!" the "demonstrators," under the direction of someone's clearly skillful hand, had caused damage to the city costing many millions in just a few hours.

A small point of information. In the last 3 years, as a consequence of the fall in the price of oil on the world market, the economic position of Algeria, 98 percent of whose earnings depend on exports, has shown a marked deterioration. The increased foreign debt and a certain degree of chaos in the economic development plans, based on costly "participation" by foreign companies, combined with growing corruption among part of the state apparatus, increased activity on the part of private traders, increasingly escaping state control, and rampant inflation of around 40 percent has resulted in a decline in living standards for the bulk of the population on the one hand, and the formation of a rich bourgeois, bureaucratic elite on the other. The disappearance from the shelves of cheap goods and foodstuffs within everyone's reach and their replacement by fabulously expensive luxury items did nothing to cement social harmony. And then there was "Red Wednesday"....

Who, then, is behind those who raised their hand against their state and their own people? The prepared nature of the disturbances and their clear thrust—under the slogan of fighting high costs—purely against state property (the stores of small traders, who, incidentally, also inflate the prices of staple goods, have not suffered) leave no doubt

that the events of the last few days were inspired by quite specific, carefully disguised political forces. Of the numerous opinions expressed on this score the ones that seem closest to reality are those naming Islamic fundamentalist circles as the organizers of the disturbances. The latter alone represent in Algeria today a possible real alternative force. They alone possess an efficient, carefully concealed structure and links in the broad masses of the least well-off strata of the population. And their ideological platform alone, given the colossal influence of religion, is capable of inciting such a considerable number of young people to go on the rampage.

Algiers will be without public transportation for a while yet—a large number of buses have been burnt out—and without mineral and drinking water, beer, and soft drinks, because the hooligans smashed and burned down the mineral water plant. The problem of food supplies is even more acute—state and cooperative stores and food depots have been ransacked. A curfew has been introduced in the capital.

Although outwardly life has begun to return to normal in the Algerian capital and the population has, insofar as it can, restored the city to its former appearance, the situation in Algiers remains difficult. Unrest continued in the capital on Thursday and Friday. Disturbances in Algeria's second largest city, Oran, have assumed mass proportions. Even the introduction of a curfew from 10pm through 5am, the presence of tanks and armored personnel carriers on the central squares, and the arrest of 900 instigators of "demonstrations" has not guaranteed calm and safety—exchanges of fire between subversive elements and government troops have taken place at night in Belcourt, Hydra, and a number of other districts in the city. The toll is a doleful one: Over 55 people have died and 120 families been rendered homeless in the 5 days of disturbances.

The population, on the whole, understands and supports the authorities' actions and sees that they are in reality defending its interests: Soldiers, tired from sleepless nights, are brought bottles of mineral water and plain home-cooked food by city inhabitants. The Ministry of Justice announcement that special tribunals, precluding bias or high-handedness, have been established to determine the degree of guilt of the instigators of the disturbances has been received with satisfaction.

Israeli Officials' Positions Seen To 'Evolve'

PM0710141188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[Article by A. Chistyakov: "Near East: Echoes of the Palestinian Uprising"]

[Text] The election warm-up has ended in Israel. The battle for seats in the Knesset (parliament) has entered its final phase: The election, whose outcome will determine the shape of the new government, is set for 1 November.

Approaches to the settlement of the conflict with the Arabs and to the solution of the key problem of the conflict—the Palestinian problem—are at the center of the election struggle. Likud views the "solution" of the question in the context of the Camp David plan of administrative autonomy for the Palestinian population, seeing the territories of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip as an integral part of a "greater Israel." As for the Labor Party, it is in favor of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza and most of the West Bank and backs the idea of convening an international conference on the Near East, although it has its own "umbrella" interpretation, that is, it sees it as a cover for separate solutions.

As a result of such disparate approaches to the settlement of the conflict, a paradoxical situation has arisen: Ever since its foundation Israel has been in a state of permanent confrontation with its neighbors, and its government has had no stance on what is the main issue for Israelis—war and peace.

This question is vitally important for the whole region. Confrontation continues in the Near East.

But the stronger the conflict participants become, the more pointless it seems to bank on force. In all past Arab-Israeli wars 11,000 Israelis have been killed. According to current Israeli estimates, a new war with the Arabs would cost Israel 40,000 dead or wounded and economic losses would run into billions of dollars. For that reason, clearly, increasingly vigorous efforts are being made in Israel to review the situation and carry out some reevaluation.

No two ways about it, the process was sparked off by the mass actions by the Palestinian population of the occupied territories, which have been going on for 10 months now. One important effect of these actions is that they have, as it were, punched a hole in Israeli public consciousness by demonstrating that the status quo cannot be maintained and that it is a mistake to attempt to create prosperity for oneself by infringing others' rights. The point is that a new generation has grown up in Israel since 1967, since the occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It has become "accustomed" to seeing Israel inside "new borders." Today this generation, which comprises the bulk of the Israeli Army, is in a state of shock. It has had to bear the brunt of the Palestinian Arabs' opposition to the occupation.

There is economic as well as psychological shock. For over 20 years the occupied territories were a source of cheap labor for the Israeli economy and a market for the products of a number of its sectors. In other words, the occupation was beneficial. Now it is proving costly. According to figures cited by Minister of Economic Planning G. Ya'aqobi, Israel's losses as a result of the Palestinian actions, including export and production losses amd losses as a result of dwindling tourism, amount to over $600 million.

People in Israel are also talking about other problems connected with the continued occupation, for example, demographics. An alternative has arisen: Unless there is a withdrawal from the occupied territories, in the near future the state will become binational—Arab-Jewish—or become like South Africa. Neither prospect is popular. The image of Israel as a civilized, democratic state is painstakingly cultivated and lovingly cherished. But it has now been thoroughly tarnished.

Some time after the start of the Palestinian actions the mood in Israel was buoyant: What could a mob with only rocks as weapons achieve? But this mood evaporated pretty quickly. It was replaced by a more sober mood which, in varying degrees, embraced the general public and many political forces.

There remain chauvinist, extremist impulses in Israel that are still a factor. Those who foment them are even trying to portray the Palestinians' actions as evidence that it is impossible to get along with the Arabs. They even put forward versions of a "solution" to the Palestinian problem such as annexation of the occupied territories and expulsion of the indigenous inhabitants. But the authors and advocates of these "theories" are finding it increasingly difficult to "validate" their stance, particularly as the Palestinian uprising is of a peaceful nature and the Arabs by and large are essentially peaceable.

Each new day of the Palestinian actions helps to destroy the myths that have been created during the years of occupation. They include the myth that the territorial appendages create a "security zone" for Israel and serve as a kind of cordon sanitaire between it and its neighbors. It is becoming clearer and clearer to many Israelis that, given modern means of warfare, it matters little whether the opponent is a few dozen kilometers nearer or further away. At the end of March several retired Israeli army generals, headed by former military intelligence leader A. Yariv, set up the "Peace and Security Council" organization.

When "Herut" Central Committee member Moshe Amirav quit the party to set up the "Stop the Occupation" movement it made a big impact in Israel.

One increasingly hears notes of realism in Israel also with regard to the PLO. In early September Foreign Ministry General Director A. Tamir made a public statement in Washington, frankly declaring that "Israel will have to get used to the fact that the Palestinians are represented by the PLO and no other organization will be able to replace it."

Thus, Israeli politicians' views have been seen to evolve. The chauvinist and expansionist fug has begun to disperse. How long will the process last and will it run deep?

PDRY Party Leader Welcomes Peace Initiatives

PM1110091588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[V. Belyakov report: "In the Interests of the Region"]

[Text] Aden, 7 Oct—'A.S. al-Bid, general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], has expressed support for the Soviet initiatives to ensure security in the Asia-Pacific region. We consider the proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in Krasnoyarsk, he noted in a conversation with Soviet journalists, to be timely and consonant with the interests of the peoples of this region. In all the countries of Asia, just as throughout the entire world, people are seeking a better life, a happy future for themselves and their children, and peace—irrespective of their social system. The new Soviet proposals are also aimed at attaining these goals.

The YSP Central Committee general secretary assessed highly the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy. Your country, he said, has recently been conducting a "peace offensive," which was begun by the program for attaining a nuclear-free world proclaimed in January 1986. We also believe that an offensive must be waged using only peace initiatives rather than missiles. We are convinced that a mutually acceptable peaceful solution can be found for every international problem.

Lushev To Visit PDRY, YAR Mid-October

PM1110101188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "On Forthcoming Visit"]

[Text] In accordance with the agreement reached, Army General P.G. Lushev, USSR first deputy defense minister, will pay an official visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic in the middle of October this year.

Government Greets YAR's Salih on National Day

PM1110132388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] a telegram conveying friendly greetings and best wishes to him and to the friendly Yemeni people on the occasion of the country's national day—Revolution Day—on 26 September.

The telegram expresses confidence that the relations of traditional friendship and cooperation, based on the reliable foundation of the 1984 treaty, will continue to develop and strengthen for the benefit of our countries'

peoples and in the interests of strengthening international security and overcoming regional conflicts, of bringing a non-nuclear and violence-free world closer to reality.

In a telegram in reply, the YAR president expressed profoundly felt thanks and gratitude to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium for the greetings and, for his part, wished the friendly Soviet people further progress and prosperity. The all-around development of relations between our countries, the telegram says, will conform with the interests of our friendly peoples, the interests of the cause of achieving peace all over the world.

Soviet Chemical Weapon Aid to Syria Denied

PM1110122988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 First Edition p 5

[Article by Lieutenant Colonel V. Markushin under the "Pertinent Notes" rubric: "Why Lies Were Needed"]

[Text] Not so long ago a claim appeared in the U.S. press about alleged Soviet-Syrian cooperation in the development of chemical weapons. Some Israeli and U.S. officials were cited and the reader was told that with the Soviet Union's assistance chemical warheads are being produced in Syria for the surface-to-surface missiles in that country. For greater conviction mention was made of the trip to Syria by the USSR Defense Ministry chemical troops chief which, it was claimed, said a lot in itself.

USSR Foreign Ministry spokesmen have stated clearly and unambiguously that this information does not accord with reality. The Soviet Union has never put chemical weapons in foreign hands and has never taught anyone how to produce chemical weapons.

But who needed this latest propaganda story? You do not have to be a major analyst to answer this question. You only have to look at the scope and purpose with which Israel is preparing for an aggressive war against the neighboring Arab countries.

Indeed, this small country produces something on the order of 600 different models of weapons and combat equipment. Half the state budget is spent on military purposes. The largest and most skilled part of the labor force is employed in arms production. This military policy requires justification. So there appears the skillfully juggled "invoice" which serves the Israeli leadership as an argument in favor of continuing to build up the aggressor state's military might and to develop and produce any types of armaments, including weapons of mass annihilation.

The foreign press has frequently published information about how Israel has a real opportunity to deliver nuclear strikes using as delivery vehicles the "Jericho" missiles and "Kfir" fighter bombers and also aircraft obtained from the United States. The Israeli leaders not only do not conceal this possibility but on the contrary use it as a means of political blackmail.

Nor can we fail to be worried by the fact that Tel Aviv is preparing to wage chemical warfare. In particular, the foreign press has reported research work at a secret establishment near Tel Aviv and tests of chemical weapons on the Golan Heights seized from Syria. This attests to the fact that the real threat of the use of chemical weapons comes from Israel.

As for the trip to Syria by Colonel General V. Pikalov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry chemical troops, during the trip there was a discussion of questions of the protection of troops, the danger of the proliferation of chemical weapons was explained, and the USSR's efforts in the field of a global ban on these weapons were elucidated.

Public Education Official Holds Talks in Syria

PM1110154588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Over"]

[Text] Damascus, 10 Oct—A Soviet delegation led by G.A. Yagodin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Public Education, has visited Syria at the invitation of the country's minister of higher education, K. Sharaf. During the visit talks were held with a Syrian delegation headed by K. Sharaf.

During his visit to Syria, the head of the Soviet delegation was received by Syrian Vice President 'A.H. Khaddam, Prime Minister M. al-Zu'bi, W. Tannus, head of the Higher Education Department of the Regional Ba'th Party Command, and Minister of Education G. Halabi.

At the end of the visit the sides signed a protocol providing for the development of ties between the USSR State Committee for Public Education and the Syrian Ministry of Higher Education and between the two countries' higher educational establishments.

Bessmertnykh, Brutents Meet With PLO Delegation

LD1110214588 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—An exchange of opinions on the ways of settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and solution of the Palestine problem was held here on October 10-11 during a meeting of USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and Deputy Chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee Karen Brutents with a delegation of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The sides declared for a convocation of an international conference with the participation of the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all the parties concerned including the PLO, the sole authentic representative of the Palestinian people. It was noted that the interests of all the parties concerned should be taken into consideration in practical steps toward easing the situation in the region.

The Soviet side highly assessed the constructive line of the PLO leadership. The parties pointed to the importance of the continuation of the contacts and close coordination in the interests of establishing a fair and durable peace in the Middle East.

Further Details Reported

LD1110175188 Kuwait KUNA in English 0942 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, Oct 11 (KUNA)—A high-level Palestinian delegation resumes its talks with senior Foreign Ministry officials here Tuesday.

The Palestinian delegates, led by PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, and comprising Sulayman Najab, 'Abdallah Hurani and Mamdh Nufal, had met with Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Besmertnykh and Deputy Chairman of the International Relations Department at the Central Committee of the Communist Party Karen Brutents, along with other Soviet officials.

Informed Palestinian sources told KUNA that the Soviet-Palestinian talks lasted for three hours, during which views were exchanged on the latest developments on the Palestinian front and the Mideast situation.

According to the same sources, the two sides affirmed that the 10-month-old uprising has realised extremely important gains, in favor of the Palestinian people and its legitimate rights.

For its part, Moscow renewed its backing of the heroic Palestinian struggle, led by the PLO, "which spearheads national action with the utmost responsibility, balance and serious intention toward realising just peace in the area."

The Palestinian team also affirmed the PLO's keenness to consult with the Soviets and all friends of the Palestinian struggle and legitimate national rights.

The Palestinian visitors will also confer with members of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity on the latest Arab and Palestinian developments.

While the Palestinian sources described yesterday's talks as "important and constructive", the official Soviet news agency, TASS, spoke highly of the Palestinian support of U.N. Security Council resolutions, including 242 which recognises the right of all countries in the area to exist.

In its commentary, TASS emphasized that such a fact "is considered a positive factor, which was announced by the highest representative of the Palestinian people, namely PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat."

The agency affirmed that the Palestinians will not abandon their basic demands of terminating the Israeli occupation and establishing their independent state, based on their right of self-determination.

East Europe

CPCZ Plenum Ends; Personnel Changes Announced

LD1110205888 Moscow TASS in English 1920 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Prague October 11 TASS—A plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia dealing with ideological matters ended here today. The plenum was addressed by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Milos Jakes. He analysed the course of the implementation of decisions connected with the making of the economic reform with restructuring and democratisation of public life. The participants in the plenum expressed full support for the speech of Milos Jakes, discussed and endorsed a report of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on topical tasks of ideological work of the party. A resolution was adopted on the questions discussed.

The plenum considered organizational matters. Chairmen and members of standing commissions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia were elected. A Committee on Party Work in the Czech Socialist Republic and a Commission on the Drafting of the Programme of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia were formed. The plenum elected Frantisek Pitra, Miroslav Stepan, Ivan Knotek, Karel Urbanek, Miroslav Zavadil members of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. Josef Mevald and Rudolf Rohlicek were elected members of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. Karel Urbanek was elected chairman of the Committee for Party Work in the Czech Socialist Republic.

The plenum relieved Lubomir Strougal and Peter Colotka of the duties of members of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

Jakes Speech Reported

PM1110110588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Oct 88 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "CPCZ Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Prague, 10 Oct—A CPCZ Central Committee plenum opened at Prague Castle today. It is devoted to the implementation of the decisions of previous CPCZ Central Committee plenums and the tasks of the party's ideological work in conditions of restructuring.

M. Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, delivered the opening speech at the plenum. He dwelt on a number of questions concerning the phased implementation of restructuring tasks in the sphere of the economy and social relations.

The decisions of the the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference, which evoked a widespread reaction and support among members of our party and the Czechoslovak public, proved a great inspiration for our further progress. The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium discussed the results of the Soviet Communists' forum and adopted a resolution on their concrete application in Czechoslovak conditions during the preparations for the 18th CPCZ Congress, the drafting of the party program, and work to improve the party apparatus. Many thoughts and ideas expressed at the Soviet Communists' forum will be reflected in our efforts to improve the political system, draft a new Czechoslovak constitution, deepen democracy, and resolve priority tasks in the economic sphere.

During the time which has elapsed since the previous CPCZ Central Committee plenum, M. Jakes said further, a great deal of work has been carried out in the party and in society to advance the process of restructuring and democratization. The party's course has the support of the majority of the people; however, there is still evidence of passiveness, indecision, and unwillingness to give up stereotypes in the way we act and think, and there are mutterings from skeptical voices.

It cannot be ignored that people who have nothing in common with socialism are trying to profit from the process of restructuring and deepening of socialist democracy. In connection with the Czechoslovak historical anniversaries being marked this year forces seeking the destabilization of society have stepped up their activities, and these are receiving broad support or are even directly organized from abroad. There are attempts to pit believers against socialism. Our political system provides broad opportunities for the application of socialist democracy. We favor socialist pluralism, a pluralism of opinions, but we reject the establishment and activities of antisocialist political structures. This would conflict with the people's vital interests. It is of the utmost importance for our further progress that, thanks to the Soviet Union and its peace offensive, positive changes are taking place in international life. The CSSR welcomed the results of the talks between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan. The foreign policy activities of the socialist countries were developed at the Warsaw Pact member countries' Political Consultative Committee conference, where priority tasks in the sphere of disarmament and in international cooperation in the solution of mankind's global problems were formulated. The CSSR, M. Jakes stressed, has a vital interest in the constant development of the process of disarmament, the relaxation of international tension, and the strengthening of trust among peoples.

M. Jakes went on to stress that the party's ideological work is of paramount importance in conditions of economic and social restructuring. It is required to ensure the implementation of the party's political course and must be closely connected with real life. It is proposed that the plenum discuss and adopt decisions on certain important organizational and political questions.

We are proposing, the CPCZ Central Committee general secretary said, to hold the 18th CPCZ Congress a year ahead of time, in the first half of 1990. Justifying this proposal, M. Jakes emphasized that the congress will have to discuss new tasks, demands, and problems and adopt decisions on them. It is proposed to draw up the basic guidelines for the development of the economy in the 9th 5-Year Plan in advance so as to ensure the high-quality elaboration of the corresponding party congress documents. A proposal on the establishment and composition of a CPCZ Central Committee commission to draft the CPCZ program is also being submitted for discussion. M. Jakes introduced a draft on expanding the number of CPCZ Central Committee commissions and also a proposal on the establishment and composition of the Czech Socialist Republic committee for the leadership of party work. He stressed that this did not mean the formation of a Czech Communist Party but rather of the formation of a territorial organ of the united CPCZ.

In conclusion M. Jakes acquainted the plenum participants with a request from L. Strougal to relieve him of his duties as a member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the Czechoslovak Government. A similar request had been received from P. Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, deputy premier of the Czechoslovak Government, and premier of the Slovak Government. It was proposed that these requests be granted. M. Jakes thanked L. Strougal and P. Colotka for their active work in the party and the government.

A CPCZ Central Committee Presidium report on topical tasks in the party's ideological work was then delivered by J. Fojtik, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Military Chiefs Attend CSSR Embassy Reception

PM1210092388 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Oct 88 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "To Mark the Anniversary"]

[Text] Lieutenant General V. Pavlic, military attache at the CSSR Embassy in the USSR, gave a reception to mark the 44th anniversary of the Czechoslovak People's Army.

The reception was attended by Army Generals Yu.P. Maksimov and D.S. Sukhorukov, USSR deputy defense ministers; Admiral of the Fleet A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Military attaches from the embassies of a number of foreign states in the USSR were among the guests.

CSSR ambassador to the USSR J. Rehorek was also present.

Afghan Veterans To Receive Treatment in CSSR

PM0710131588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Oct 88 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "To Czechoslovakia for Treatment"]

[Text] Prague, 5 Oct—Several hundred Soviet internationalist servicemen who received grave injuries while fighting counterrevolutionary gangs in Afghanistan will receive a course of treatment in the best Czechoslovak clinics. This decision has been made by the Czech Socialist Republic Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, which has supported the initiative of the CSSR Socialist Youth Union to give medical aid to servicemen who have rendered international assistance to the Afghan people.

LCY-Montenegro Joint Session Held in Belgrade

LD1110213888 Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Belgrade October 11 TASS—The TANJUG news agency reports that the current political situation in the republic was considered here at a joint session of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists and of the members of the Presidency of Montenegro. The session was attended by representatives of the republic in the federal bodies of the party and the state.

Miljan Radovic, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Montenegro, delivered a report, emphasizing that following the joint session of the two presidiums last Saturday many reproaches were expressed about a delay in the adoption of decisions concerning the demands of the participants in the meeting. The delay is accounted for by the fact that time was needed for competent bodies to study and to make a realistic estimate of the situation.

Describing the socio-economic situation in the republic, Radovic pointed out that industrial production decreased by 1.3 per cent over the first eight months of this year as against the corresponding period of 1987. Prices went up by 181 per cent and living expenses increased by 188.8 per cent. These and other data, the speaker said, are indicative of a really hard position of the working class and a majority of the citizens of Montenegro.

Quite often people still expect that problems would be tackled by someone else. There is much resistance and judgements vary throughout the country, he went on to say. Inter-ethnic antagonism is intensifying in Yugoslavia. Individual interests, and not common ones, are gaining the upper hand. The brotherhood and unity and the fundamental gains of the socialist revolution are being undermined. Democracy and human dignity are being attacked under the guise of democracy by means of most orthodox methods of pressure and labelling. Honest communists, workers and citizens ask in what direction our revolution is drifting. They cannot understand why the drama in Kosovo continues for so long and why one of the world's most democratic states cannot ensure civil rights and freedoms for the Serbians and Montenegrins as well as other non-Albanian people of Kosovo.

Time has come for everyone of us to realise that we all are responsible for the destiny of the country and the revolution, Radovic pointed out.

The televised address by Raif Dizdarevic, president of the collective Presidency of Yugoslavia, cannot leave anyone indifferent. It is shared by everyone who cherish Yugoslavia.

No one, the members of our two Presidiums including, can be outside criticism and responsibility for one's activities. But this must be done lawfully, within the framework of the political system and in accordance with the current principles, and not in the streets or at the bidding of unknown and known masterminds. The leadership of Montenegro has always acted and will continue to act in accordance with the programmatic guidelines of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. It will always favour a united Federal Yugoslavia and equal position of all peoples and nationalities.

The League of Communists and other socialist forces, Marko Orlandic, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY), pointed out in a speech at the session, should without delay begin to combat the phenomena which gave rise to popular wrath otherwise the initiative would be seized by individual orators, demagogists and groups that call for the overthrow of the lawful institutions of Montenegro, its state and national distinctiveness. We should resolutely differentiate between the causes of popular wrath and those persons and groups.

Montenegro is economically a less developed region. Up to now there have not been either will or energies to change the state of affairs and policy. I think that this is the final warning to us. People who pursue an unsuccessful policy should quit. None of us should evade responsibility or consider oneself outside criticism. I repeat,

this is a battle for Yugoslavia, for democratic and federal community of equal peoples and nationalities, and no price for the attainment of this goal can be high.

The leadership of Montenegro, Vidoe Zarcovic, member of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee, emphasized in a speech at the session, correctly evaluated the political situation when it took resolute measures at the meeting in Titograd last Saturday against a militant group which put in jeopardy the public order and peace in the city. A breach of the public order would have had harder consequences.

TASS Reports on Serbian CP Meeting in SFRY

LD1110230688 Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Belgrade October 11 TASS—The Central Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia opened a plenary meting here today.

It is to discuss topical issues related to the political situation, preparations for the 17th Plenum of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, and tasks facing the republic's organisation.

Ratomir Vico, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia, delivered a report, the TANJUG news agency reported.

He "sharply denounced the actions of people who have launched a slanderous campaign over meetings of solidarity with Serbs and Montenegrins of Kosovo", accusing the Serbian leadership of "non-observing the principle of democratic centralism".

In connection with the situation in Kosovo, the speaker said that an additional militia detachment would be immediately sent there to use "all constitutional means' to protect the rights of Serbs and Montenegrins.

Assessing the situation in Vojvodina, Vico supported the demands of many party organisations to convene an extraordinary conference of the League of Communists of that Autonomous province and implement "radical personnel changes with a view to consolidating the party-and-political life".

Tomislav Milenkovic, chairman of the republican council of the Confederation of trade Unions of Serbia, said during the discussion of the report that "authorities are unable to work out a mechanism for curbing the inflation".

The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Serbia continues its work.

Yugoslav Parliamentarians Received in Moscow

LD1110012588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2203 GMT 10 Oct 88

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A meeting has taken place in Moscow between a delegation of commissions on foreign affairs of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet and a delegation of committees for foreign policy of the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber and for foreign economic relations of the SFRY's Assembly Chamber of Republics and Provinces. An exchange of experience took place in the work of the parliaments in conditions of reform that are underway in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia to perfect the political and economic systems. During discussions of international questions, satisfaction was expressed over positive changes taking place in the world and first and foremost in the area of reinforcing international security and disarmament. The need was stressed not to slacken the struggle to give this process an irreversible character. [video shows meeting of delegations]

Zaykov Concludes Working Visit to Poland

Departs Warsaw

LD1110182088 Moscow TASS in English 1805 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Warsaw October 11 TASS—Today Lev Zaykov, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU, departed from Warsaw for Moscow. He stayed in the Polish capital on a working visit on the occasion of the Moscow days festival in Warsaw.

On the day of his departure Lev Zaykov laid a wreath at the monument to Warsaw heroes. A wreath was also laid in the mausoleum cemetery of Soviet soldiers where ashes of dozens of thousands of officers and men of the USSR Armed Forces lie at rest. Lev Zaykov was a guest of a Warsaw family and familiarized himself with historical and cultural sights of the Polish Capital.

Returns to Moscow

LD1110182188 Moscow TASS in English 1807 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—Lev Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow from Poland tonight.

He was in Poland on a working visit to attend celebrations marking Moscow's Days in the Polish capital.

He was welcomed at the airport by Viktor Chebrikov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Jaruzelski Cited on Party's Role in Production
PM0710105988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "W. Jaruzelski's Speech"]

[Text] Warsaw, 6 Oct—The sense of having a comfortable monopoly on power and of invariably being right that has been established over the years has cost the party too dear, W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, stated. He was speaking at a conference of the secretaries of 200 of the country's largest industrial enterprises' plant party organizations.

Talking about the place and role of the party in contemporary production, the Polish leader stressed that its official duty to people must not be forgotten for a minute. However, during the process of political and economic reform Communists must not duplicate the activity of other organs responsible for the enterprise's functioning. Their main task is to see the main strategic aims and future of the labor collective from the viewpoint of all society and stimulate creative initiative in the quest for optimum paths. It is extremely essential for the party to function in conjunction with an enterprise's administration, trade unions, and young people's and other public organizations. They must be taught political culture, cooperation, and how to jointly resolve contradictions that crop up.

The socialist enterprise is not merely a work place for a working person. It is also an environment for education, upbringing, information, and enlightenment. It is of great significance in creating a good atmosphere where there is no room for envy, intrigue, or other unhealthy phenomena.

The implementation of cadre policy must be targeted toward uncovering and promoting the most talented and innovative people who can head and advance production. W. Jaruzelski noted in conclusion that all this cannot be achieved without high quality and activeness in the party ranks.

Polish Spokesman on Speech by Solidarity Official
LD1010150088 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Warsaw October 10 TASS—The recent speech by Janusz Onyszkiewicz, one of the former leaders of the dissolved "Solidarity", in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. Congress was of unprecedented character. This is emphasized in a statement made by S. Staniszewski, director of the Department of the Press and Information of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The statement is published in the Polish press today.

It was for the first time that a citizen of the Polish People's Republic, who parmanently resides in Poland, participated in the so-called hearing in U.S. Congress dealing with Polish internal affairs and interstate relations between Poland and the United States, the statement points out.

The Polish public was bewildered by the fact that a Polish citizen allowed the parliamentary body of another state officially to question him on matters concerning the domestic situation in Poland. Moreover, this happened at a time when multilateral efforts are being made in Poland with a view to creating a coalition in defence of reforms on a broad political basis and when preparation has been started for round-table negotiations in which persons from among various circles of the public, including those whom Onyszkiewisz claim to represent, are known to participate.

"We are conducting a dialogue on our own initiative in the name of achieving national concord and in the name of Polish interests. We proceed from the premise that our own affairs must be tackled by the Poles themselves", says the statement made by the Polish Foreign Ministry's spokesman.

The fact of the hearing of a Polish citizen by a U.S. congressional committee is an attempt at interference in the internal affairs of Poland. This is also evidenced by Onyszkiewicz's pronouncements at a news conference following his meeting with the U.S. President about the importance of "President Reagan's statement that the pressure being put by the U.S. Administration on the Polish Government for it to begin, at last, a genuine dialogue with the Polish people would be continued".

"This statement by Onyszkiewicz is inadmissible. It is destitute of national dignity. This runs counter to the U.S. Administration's assurances about a will for constructive and pragmatic development of relations with Poland. Availing myself of the opportunity, I want to express hope, however, that political statements by the U.S. Administration about a desire to develop cooperation with Poland on the basis of mutual trust will find practical confirmation", Staniszewski stated in conclusion.

Polish Roundtable Talks, Demonstrations Assessed
LD1210092288 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2145 GMT 11 Oct 88

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Scherbakov]

[Text] An interview with Czyrek, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, has been published in Poland on the occasion of the roundtable meeting due to take place within the next week between representatives of official circles and the public. Czyrek stressed that there will be no place at this meeting for the opposition that aims to overthrow the existing system in Poland.

The roundtable talks should lead to the establishment of a council of national accord. This body should act for quite a long time until new elections are held to the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic.

For this what is needed is the formulation of a joint program of basic political and socioeconomic reforms. They open up for representatives of other orientations the opportunity for broad participation in public and state life on the basis of socialist pluralism.

As events in the PPR show, some group in the country are trying to make use of the government's efforts for broad dialogue for provocative purposes. For example, on Tuesday demonstrations took place in some Polish cities under slogans calling for the legalization of the so-called independent student union. This organization was banned in 1981 together with the not unknown trade union Solidarity. It is reported that those taking part in the demonstrations were those same activists of the banned trade union.

CPSU Delegation Studies PZPR Economic Efforts

PM1110122788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the PZPR a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by V.P. Mozhin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Economic Department, visited Poland 3-8 October. The delegation acquainted itself with the organizational work of the PZPR in implementing the second stage of the economic reform.

The delegation was received by W. Baka, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

Bulgaria's Zhivkov Receives Yazov in Sofia

LD1210090888 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Oct 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Todor Zhivkov received today in Sofia a Soviet military delegation led by Comrade Yazov, which is in Bulgaria on an official friendly visit. An exchange of opinions took place on topical problems of the contemporary international situation. Questions were discussed of the further development of cooperation between the two countries and of the strengthening of unity and fraternal friendship between the Soviet Armed Forces and the Bulgarian People's Army and the armies of the Warsaw Pact states. Army General Dzhurov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and the republic's national defense minister, took part in the talks.

Joint USSR-GDR Exercises Set for 17-23 Oct

LD1110195188 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—A joint troop exercise of the Group of Soviet Troops in Germany and the National People's Army of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) will be conducted under the agreement with the GDR Government in the area of Wittstock, Gardelegen, Magdeburg, Zehdenik and Feldberg, the GDR, on October 17-23 to upgrade the battle training of troops and practice control and teamwork.

Large and small units of land and air forces will be involved in the exercises. Troop strength will total 17.7 thousand.

Under the terms of the document of the Stockholm Conference, the GDR Government invited observers from all participating states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to scrutinize the troop exercises.

Honecker Cited on USSR-GDR Cooperation

PM1110135788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "An Important Milestone"]

[Text] Berlin, 8 Oct—The fact that the establishment of the GDR on 7 October 1949 marked a turning point in the history of our people and of Europe is today subject to fewer doubts than ever before. This was stated by E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. He was speaking at a reception here in honor of production pace-setters and labor veterans given state awards on the anniversary of the GDR's establishment.

The GDR, a state with a highly productive industry, modern agriculture, and creatively developing science and culture, is at the same time a state where there is social confidence, human dignity, and full employment, a state where working and living conditions are constantly being improved, E. Honecker said.

Stressing the great importance of his recent meeting in Moscow with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, he declared that the GDR and the USSR, united by friendship and solidarity and proceeding from common views on fundamental questions of foreign policy and socialist building, will continue to cooperate for the good of their peoples. The next stretch of the road to this goal has been mapped out.

Honecker Cited on USSR Visit, GDR Successes

PM0710105388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Berlin, 6 Oct—My visit to Moscow and the GDR exhibition in the Soviet capital was the start of a new phase in our cooperation in the economic sphere: Our Soviet interlocutors are also of this opinion, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, stated. Speaking today at an award ceremony for production frontrunners and the best labor collectives to mark the 39th anniversary of the formation of the GDR, he said that at a time when the countries of socialism have to face new tasks and find the most suitable solutions, we value especially highly constructive exchanges of opinions and experience, as happened in Moscow.

The people of the German worker and peasant state can be proud of what they have been able to achieve during the 39 years of the GDR's existence, E. Honecker continued. A politically stable socialist state with modern industry and agriculture and developed science and culture, a state that enjoys world recognition, respect, and trust has been created under the leadership of the working class. The success of our achievements, the GDR leader continued, lies in our close and fruitful coopeeration with the Soviet Union and other countries of socialism. We will continue in the future to develop this work geared toward making increasingly effective use of the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution for the good of socialism.

ADN Reports on GDR Trade Exhibition in Moscow

LD1010084088 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1723 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, 9 Oct (ADN)—At the conclusion of the 24-day GDR exhibition in Moscow, Guenther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and GDR permanent representative to CEMA, visited the largest GDR exposition abroad together with leading representatives of this socialist international economic organization today. Taking part in the tour were all leaders of delegations to the forthcoming 129th meeting of the CEMA Executive Committee. They were especially interested in the top achievements of socialist economic integration and cooperation between the GDR and the USSR, which was given new momentum through the joint visit by Erich Honecker and Mikhail Gorbachev.

The CEMA representatives saw the high performance capability and the experiences of the GDR in linking science and production, the effective use of material resources and workers, as well as the broad introduction of the achievements of scientific-technical progress, in particular of key technologies. They paid special tribute to the high level of the products in their working demonstrations, and of the modern procedures and results which can thus be achieved in the raising of productivity, in the lowering of costs, as well as of the use of materials and energy.

The large number of top achievements in microelectronics, mechanical engineering, automation systems, and in the use of electronics in such traditional areas as agriculture was also acknowledged. Of central interest was the one megabyte memory circuit demonstrated by the Carl Zeiss Jena combine and mechanical engineering exhibits, in particular flexible automation systems. The participants expressed the opinion that the exhibition offers comprehensive ideas for strengthening specialization and cooperation of production between the CEMA countries and for accomplishing tasks up to the year 2000.

Nikolay Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, told journalists that this was an excellent exposition. It will contribute greatly to strengthening cooperation in CEMA and giving it new momentum.

It was announced by the exhibition administration that 457,000 visitors had viewed the exposition.

Talyzin Attends Closing

LD1010132688 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Excerpts] A news conference was held in the GDR trade mission in Moscow today on the results of the GDR exhibition in our capital. [passage omitted] The exhibition has now ended. Attending the closing ceremony were Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and our country's permanent CEMA representative, and other officials.

'Vremya' Carries GDR Envoy's National Day Speech

LD0810085988 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Oct 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; speech by Gerd Koenig, GDR ambassador to the USSR, on 7 October in the studio—live or recorded]

[Text] Dear Soviet comrades and friends! The people of the German Democratic Republic, are together with their friends throughout the entire world, marking the 39th anniversary of the formation of the first German state of workers and peasants. The day marks a turning point in the history of the German people. For the first time there arose a German state, whose highest precepts are peace, social security, and democracy for all citizens. Thus, once and for all, the lessons were drawn from the dire past under the guidance of the SED party. The memory of the Soviet Union's liberating exploit will live forever among our people.

The working people of our republic view with pride what has been achieved. The national economy is developing with stability and dynamically. Thanks to conscientious toil it has become possible step by step to improve the condition of people's lives. Pressing problems are being tackled by creative guests.

A mature and durable alliance has arisen between the GDR and the Soviet Union. Numerous friendly contacts have been established between people. Our parties and peoples trust and value each other. The results of the recent meeting between the leaders of our countries, Erich Honecker and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, confirm that we shall continue to proceed along this tested path. We are fully determined together to be on a par with the demands of the nineties. Important stimuli were provided for this by the GDR's representative economic exhibition in Moscow. For everyone who cherishes peace the GDR is a reliable and enterprising partner. Alongside the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries it is acting for the sake of tirelessly consolidating the positive features that have been taking shape in the international situation.

With all my heart I wish you success in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference on restructuring society. You may always be assured of the sympathies, solidarity, and support of the people of the GDR. In conclusion, accept my cordial congratulations on the occasion of USSR Constitution Day.

USSR Sends National Day Greetings to GDR

PM0710144988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Oct 88 Second Edition p 1

[Soviet leading organs' greetings message to Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, and Willy Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, on GDR National Day]

[Text] To Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State

To Comrade Willy Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers

Dear comrades!

On the GDR's national holiday—the 39th anniversary of its formation—we send you, the SED Central Committee, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, and the entire fraternal GDR people cordial congratulations and best wishes.

Since its inception the GDR has developed as a state whose entire policy is designed to transform Europe into a continent of peace and good-neighborliness.

By implementing the SED's course of ensuring the unity of social and economic policy, GDR working people have achieved great successes in building socialism on German soil. The republic's achievements in industry, agriculture, science, technology, public education, health, and other spheres of social development are universally recognized.

Soviet people greatly value the close alliance relations and fruitful multifaceted cooperation between our parties, states, and peoples. The September 1988 meeting between the leaders of the CPSU and the SED in Moscow confirmed that the USSR and the GDR have good potential for deepening collaboration and intend to fully implement it and actively help increase the effectiveness of cooperation within the CEMA framework.

Basing themselves on the initiatives put forward by the Warsaw Pact states to ensure peace, trust, and security, the USSR and the GDR are striving to affirm the new political thinking in relations between peoples and to radically improve the entire international atmosphere. People in the Soviet Union welcome the GDR's steps designed to achieve military detente in the center of Europe.

We wish the Communists and all the working people of the fraternal GDR successes in implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and the steady strengthening of the German socialist state's international prestige.

CPSU Central Committee

USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

USSR Council of Ministers

West Europe

Further Reportage on Shevardnadze Paris Meetings

Speaks at Soviet Embassy

LD1110170888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1545 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Paris, 11 Oct (TASS)—A meeting of the aktiv of the workers at Soviet institutions in France was held at the USSR Embassy in Paris today. A report was delivered at it by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, who is here on an official visit.

Meets with PCF's Marchais

LD1110191188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1735 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Paris, 11 Oct (TASS)—E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, today met with Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party. In the course of the conversation, which passed off in a

warm, comradely atmosphere, E.A. Shevardnadze told of his conversations with French leaders and of the Soviet-French talks. For his part, G. Marchais supported the Soviet Union's efforts to further develop relations with France in the interest of the general improvement of the international situation, and for the good of the peoples of the two countries.

At the meeting a unanimity of views was reaffirmed concerning the struggle for the restructuring of international relations, for disarmament, and for the creation of a climate of trust in relations between states.

'Intensive' Talks With Dumas

LD1110192288 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Paris October 11 TASS—Talks continued in the French Foreign Ministry today between Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Commitee and foreign minister of the USSR, and Roland Dumas, minister of state and minister for external affairs of France.

Discussions were resumed simultaneously at working groups on individual issues.

The exchange of views is intensive, which makes it possible both to compare the common opinions of the sides and to focus attention on specific issues.

The atmosphere of the talks is determined by the view which the sides share about the timeliness and necessity of expanding and invigorating Soviet-French partnership in the interests of attaining progress at major directions of European and world politics. There are favourable conditions for that now.

Within the context of considering the state of affairs in the field of universal security and security-building measures, the sides discussed problems of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and ballistic missile technology.

As a matter of principles, they pointed to the mutual interest in the effective prevention of the destabilizing proliferation of armaments.

The French side specified its considerations regarding the idea of holding a conference by the countries parties to the 1925 Geneva protocol on chemical weapons.

Consultations on this issue will be continued.

The continuation of the exchange of views on problems of reducing troops and conventional arms in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals was substantive and held in a practical plane.

The Soviet Union and France believe it is feasible to start the talks on those issues.

The Soviet side stressed in this connection the need for working out and using a new "technology" on talks, that would match the current political thinking and would make it possible to shorten the way towards balanced agreements.

It was believed in Moscow, Shevardnadze said, that involvement of Europe's top leaders at the early stage of the historic process could play a decisive part. Precisely that motivated the proposal for holding a summit meeting of the countries participants in the all-European conference.

Vienna meeting subjects were discussed. The sides stressed importance of Soviet-French cooperation at the concluding stage of this portion on the all-European process.

Shevardnadze emphasised that the humanitarian conference in Moscow would be conducted by all parameters in keeping with generally recognised international standards.

Its convocation before the next meeting of the countries participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the holding of the forums on "human dimensions" in Paris and Copenhagen would be a logical and natural step making it possible to impart strong dynamism to all-European cooperation in the humanitarian sphere.

Much time was devoted to the discussion of the future of Europe, comprehension and implementation of the concept of "common European home".

The Soviet side explained that the future home could become a result of intellectual and practical cooperation of all parties to the all-European process.

Both sides expressed the view that the concerted search for the settlement of regional conflicts was a promising direction in Soviet-French dialogue.

They examined in this light the situation relating to Afghanistan, the situation in the Middle East, in the Persian Gulf, Kampuchea and Cyprus.

In exchanging views on the situation relating to Afghanistan, there was raised a question of France's possible assistance in providing information about Soviet servicemen who had been taken prisoners or gone missing.

The two sides held a thorough discussion of the prospects of developing material Soviet-French trade ties, increasing trade turnover, improving its structure and reducing trade imbalance.

Meets French Parliamentarian

PM1210110588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions Continues; E.A. Shevardnadze in France"]

[Excerpts] Paris, 11 Oct—Talks continued today at the French Foreign Ministry between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and Roland Dumas, French minister of state and foreign minister. [passage omitted]

In the afternoon a meeting took place between E.A. Shevardnadze and A. Poher, chairman of the French Senate, at which some questions relating to the international situation, in particular the situation in Europe, and also opportunities for stepping up Soviet-French parliamentary ties were discussed.

Speaks at Dinner

LD1110224188 Moscow TASS in English 2210 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Paris October 12 TASS—"The ideas of the great French revolution won over many countries", said member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. He spoke here Tuesday at a dinner given in his honour by Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs of France Roland Dumas. "But even two centuries since the great French revolution, a lot of Bastilles have not yet been taken, in President Mitterrand's words".

"The advance of a great idea speeds up the passage of time when this idea is assimilated by persons responsible for the destinies of the world. I think this truth gets a stronger hold on the minds now. We are now up to the task of developing its political and moral imperative as there are already examples of new political conduct in the interests of all".

"The Soviet Union and France can increase such examples, and it is this precisely that we regard as the most important task of our current talks. On a more concrete plane, we are faced also with such the task of the deepening of the Soviet-French dialogue, paving the ground for the coming summit contacts which we are sure will place Soviet-French relations in a new, more vigorous stage of development", the minister said.

"We have embarked on this task after the process of real disarmament has started. Despite difficulties, there is advance in the working out of a treaty on 50 per cent cuts in strategic offensive arms of the USSR and the USA in conditions of the observance of the ABM Treaty. Progress is nascent in the settlement of regional conflicts. There is every opportunity for opening talks on problems of armed forces and armaments reductions in Europe as early as this year".

"The considerations expressed recently in the United Nations by the French president advance the preparation for the conclusion of a historic convention on the banning and elimination of chemical weapons", Eduard Shevardnadze said.

"Almost all the members of the world community note the increase of the United Nations peace-making potential. Its renaissance is in the interests of all and every one. Two permanent members of the Security Council—the USSR and France—can do a great deal to promote this".

"After Mikhail Gorbachev in an interview to French television in October 1985 first said the words about a common home for the Europeans, this idea, due to the efforts of many co-authors, is gradually assuming the form of a harmonius concept and the chances of its implementation are growing", the Soviet minister said.

"Our conversations showed that the Soviet Union and France have similar views about the need for an early and effective conclusion of a European meeting in Vienna. It would be a great pity if because of differences about the venue of a conference on humanitarian cooperation we should fail to achieve a consensus on the finishing stretch of the road. There can be no monopoly on authorships when human rights are concerned. Respecting the wish of France to hold the conference in Paris we see the possibility of its continuation in stages in Copenhagen and Moscow so that the geographic factor should not eclipse the human factor".

"Perestroyka in our country spread to every area from political to spiritual. Restructuring of commercial, economic, scientific and technical ties with many Western countries takes place. But a strong French component is lacking in the shaping ensemble of new cooperation".

"We do not want the title of a canvas of a Russian artist 'Everything in the Past' to suit for long the picture of Soviet-French cultural, scientific and economic ties".

Eduard Shevardnadze expressed the hope for the beginning of a new stage of interaction in international and in Soviet-French relations.

Dumas Speaks at Dinner

LD1110223288 Moscow TASS in English 2138 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Paris October 12 TASS—Roland Dumas, minister of state, minister of foreign affairs of France, gave a dinner yesterday evening in honour of Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, and his wife.

Addressing the high Soviet guest, Dumas said, in part:

"French people show a truly passionate interest today in everything that takes place in the Soviet Union, in all spheres of life in your country. Their attention and sympathies are focussed on the entire renewal process in the USSR. French people are clearly aware that these transformations call for a drastic change in relations between the state and the citizen, government and society, collective and individuals whose rights should be recognized and guaranteed. The top leaders of the Soviet Union and above all Mr Mikhail Gorbachev stated about this most definitely.

"These issues draw especially keen interest among my fellow citizens. And how can it be the other way in a country where the declaration of the rights of man and citizen was born, the declaration whose bicentenary we will celebrate next year together with the bicentenary of the French revolution.

"The bid for renewal is typical also of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union. During the practical-scientific conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry you made a report which amazed all observers. You boldly criticized the mistakes of the past, for instance, an overly lop-sided vision of international relations, the priority which sometimes was given to military means rather than political and diplomatic approaches.

"In the disarmament field we recorded the new approach to the verification problem and also consent to the principle iof asymmetric reductions.

"We hold common positions on many questions. On several other issues, specifically in the field of security, we are to bring them closer.

"In the disarmament field our first priority is assigned to stability in Europe, which presupposes a reduction in conventional armaments in our continent.

"Like you, we stand for the negotiations on conventional armaments in Europe to begin even this year. Today, it is important to find ways to gain anew the concurrence of views of France and the USSR on European problems. The future of Europe, which we intend to build, presupposes the movement in two directions: less disunity and greater solidarity.

"I see five directions that could lead to the development of cooperation between the East and the West of our continent:
—follow-up on the Helsinki CSCE process
—negotiations on conventioanl arms issues
—working toward great Europe of culture
—elaborating new projects of scientific cooperation
—realizing new forms of economic cooperation.

"Broad vistas are being opened in cooperation between France and the Soviet Union. Therefore, we should develop our political dialogue for it to acquire anew a regular nature and to become still more meaningful. In this connection your visit to Paris assumes particular importance since it is aimed, in part, at preparing the forthcoming meeting between the president of the French Republic and the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet."

Further Reportage on Austrian Chancellor's Visit

Meets With Ryzhkov

PM1210111188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Soviet-Austrian Talks"]

[Text] Talks were held in the Kremlin 10-11 October between N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Austrian Chancellor F. Vranitzky, who is on an official visit to the Soviet Union.

Questions of the further development of Soviet-Austrian cooperation and key problems of international life were discussed in a constructive and amicable atmosphere.

N.I. Ryzhkov briefed the chancellor on the process of restructuring and the socialist renewal of society taking place in the Soviet Union and on the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee September Plenum and the extraordinary USSR Supreme Soviet session.

F. Vranitzky stressed the great interest with which Austria is following the progress of transformations in the USSR. Pointing to the fact that restructuring is undoubtedly also having a positive impact on international relations, the chancellor wished the Soviet people successes in achieving their goals.

The heads of government made a positive assessment of the state of affairs in bilateral relations. Soviet-Austrian cooperation, which is based on genuinely equal and mutually advantageous foundations, is becoming broader in scale and more diverse. It is typified by a spirit of mutual trust and respect.

The sides were united in their belief that the consistent implementation of the provisions of the 1955 State Treaty and the law on permanent neutrality adopted by the Austrian parliament are of abiding importance for the progressive development of Soviet-Austrian relations.

It was noted that constant political dialogue and regular meetings and contacts between representatives of the Soviet and Austrian leaderships, as well as at other levels, constitute an important factor conducive to the strengthening of mutual understanding and the expansion of the sphere of cooperation between the two countries.

Both sides expressed their intention to continue to vigorously encourage links between the USSR and Austria in the sphere of culture, science, education, sport, tourism, and contacts between people and trade union, youth, and other social organizations.

N.I. Ryzhkov and F. Vranitzky devoted great attention to bilateral economic relations. It was noted with satisfaction that, through joint efforts, it has been possible to halt the unfavorable trend in Soviet-Austrian trade that had emerged in recent years and to ensure the further increase of trade turnover. New forms of economic cooperation have started to be used more vigorously. Eleven agreements on establishing joint ventures have been concluded between Soviet organizations and Austrian firms.

The heads of government advocated the further stepping up of economic cooperation in this area and the expansion of production sharing, cooperation in third-country markets, and trade under license. In this connection, the sides agreed to accelerate preparations for an intergovernmental agreement on the protection of investments.

Joint interest was expressed in deepening scientific and technical ties. The potential already in place for scientific and technical cooperation with the participation of a number of Soviet organizations and more than 100 Austrian firms is a good basis for giving a new qualitative dimension to joint activity in this sphere.

The agreement between Austria and the USSR on a joint Soviet-Austrian space flight is a graphic examle of the rational combination of scientific and technical potentials.

The participants in the talks advocated the intensification of cooperation in the sphere of environmental protection. The Soviet side proposed the initiation of joint scientific research on urgent problems such as the prevention of deforestation and the removal from water and the air of pollutants in the form of waste generated by the pulp and paper industry, the nonferrous metallurgy industry, and harmful waste from thermal power stations. They also proposed the carrying out of joint work to protect the ecological purity of the Danube. It was agreed that the sides would embark on talks in the very near future on concluding an intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in environmental protection.

The exchange of opinions on international problems revealed the coincidence or proximity of the sides' positions on a number of the questions under examination. The Soviet Union and Austria see the world as an integrated and interdependent whole and proceed on the basis that in the present era security must be based on a qualitatively new foundation—not at the expense of or against each other, but on the basis of reasonable and fair consideration for all sides' legitimate interests.

It was noted with satisfaction that there has recently been a clear improvement with regard to a realization of the priority of common human values, the need to reject confrontational methods in politics, and to resolve disputes exclusively by peaceful political means. However, the world community is only at the beginning of its journey, and much, much more work will have to be done in order to make this process irreversible.

N.I. Ryzhkov explained the essence of the Soviet Union's position on disarmament issues. Based on the philosophy of the new political thinking, the Soviet disarmament program includes the complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons, a ban on all types of nuclear tests, the prevention of an arms race in space, the destruction and prohibition of chemical weapons, and radical reductions in armed forces and conventional arms.

F. Vranitzky stated that Austria has always vigorously supported disarmament. That is why it welcomes the proposals and initiatives aimed at achieving it. The chancellor particularly singled out the importance of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which has opened up an era of nuclear disarmament, and expressed the hope that the USSR and the United States will be able to reach agreement on 50-percent cuts in strategic offensive arms as well.

The Soviet Union and Austria see the further enhancement of the role of the United Nations in ensuring peace and international security, and the improvement of the effectiveness of its activity as an important task. Making a high assessment of both states' cooperation within the UN framework, the sides advocated its further improvement. N.I. Ryzhkov expressed gratitude to the federal chancellor for Austria's support at the United Nations for the idea of setting up a comprehensive international security system.

The state of affairs on the European Continent was analyzed in depth. The Soviet Union and Austria advocate the further deepening of the all-European process in every avenue and the imparting of specific, positive substance to the concept of building an "all-European home."

The paramount importance of the problem of easing military confrontation in Europe and reducing the inordinate growth of conventional weapons arsenals in this area was stressed. It was noted in this regard that Austria learned with interest of the proposals put forward at the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference this July and M.S. Gorbachev's initiatives in his speech at the Polish Sejm.

The participants in the talks stated that all the prerequisites were in place for ensuring that the all-European meeting in Vienna in the next few weeks produces weighty results, and that talks begin this year on armed forces and conventional arms cuts and on developing

confidence-building measures in Europe. N.I. Ryzhkov noted the substantial contribution made by the Austrian Government toward ensuring the constructive progress of the Vienna forum. The federal chancellor stated that Austria intends to act in the same way at the final stage of the meeting's work.

The problems of Austria's relations with the European Community were touched on within the context of a discussion on the integration processes developing in Europe. The Soviet side expressed the hope that, in defining ways of regularizing these relations, Austria would act in accordance with its obligations under the State Treaty and with an eye to its neutral status. The federal chancellor stressed that permanent neutrality is Austria's absolute foreign policy priority.

The sides believe that the results of the talks will serve to further strengthen friendly Soviet-Austrian relations.

Federal Chancellor F. Vranitzky invited N.I. Ryzhkov to pay an official visit to Austria. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

Taking part in the talks were, on the Soviet side: V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; B.I. Gostev, USSR minister of finance; K.F. Katushev, USSR minister for foreign economic relations; V.G. Komplektov, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.L. Malkevich, chairman of the USSR Chamber of Trade and Industry Presidium; A.P. Bondarenko, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium; and G.S. Shikin, USSR ambassador to Austria. Participating on the Austrian side were R. Streicher, federal minister for transport and nationalized industries; H. Grubmayer, Austrian ambassador to the USSR; J. Tschach, department chief at the Ministry for Economic Affairs; E. Shmidt, chief of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; K. Kehrer, general secretary of the Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other officials.

N.I. Ryzhkov met with representatives of Austrian business circles in the Kremlin the same day. He briefed them on the results of the Soviet-Austrian talks, an important part of which was taken up by questions of the further development and improvement of bilateral economic links. Positively assessing the level of cooperation that has been reached, the Soviet leader stressed that the future of relations between the two countries in the economic sphere will largely depend on how quickly we are able to find new forms of ties that accord with the spirit of the time.

F. Vranitzky introduced leaders of large firms to the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. These included H. Schuster, director general of Anker Brot; R. Erlich, director general of Austria Metall AG; G. Schmidt-Chiari, director general of Kreditanstalt-Bankverein; and H. Wolf, director general of Voest Alpine.

The long talks held in an unconstrained atmosphere reaffirmed that the interest shown in our country by Austrian business people has increased since the Soviet-Austrian talks at the level of head of government in Vienna. More and more firms and enterprises are being attracted to mutually advantageous cooperation covering the most varied areas—from hotel construction, metal production, and paper making to the destruction of radioactive waste. There was also talk about problems hindering the development of good initiatives, the need to seriously resolve the question of manager training at the level of firms, boards of trade, and educational establishments, and the expansion of the opportunities open to Austrian partners.

The Austrian guests expressed gratitude for the opportunity to discuss questions of economic cooperation between the two countries in detail and stressed that such meetings, supplementing the official talks, promote a deepening of mutual interest and open up new prospects.

N.I. Ryzhkov and F. Vranitzky signed an agreement between the USSR and Austria on a joint Soviet-Austrian space flight.

This document vividly reflects the spirit of the time and marks a new stage in the development of relations between the two countries.

The Austrian federal chancellor laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin wall.

That evening F. Vranitzky and his wife attended the opera "The Golden Cockerel" by Rimskiy-Korsakov at the USSR Bolshoy Theater.

They were accompanied in the box by N.I. Ryzhkov, his wife, and other officials.

The state flags of Austria and the Soviet Union were flown in the auditorium. Before the beginning of the opera the orchestra played the two countries' national anthems.

Ryzhkov Kremlin Dinner Speech

LD1010223188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1907 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (TASS)—In the Great Kremlin Palace today a dinner was given on behalf of the Soviet Government in honor of Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky and his wife.

With the guest were Austrian officials accompanying him on his trip.

Present on the Soviet side were Nikolay Ryzhkov and his wife, Yuriy Maslyukov, Nikolay Talyzin, and other officials.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, made a speech at the dinner. He said:

We are sincerely glad to see you in Moscow, Mr Federal Chancellor and Mrs Vranitzky. Your visit, as is evidenced by the Soviet-Austrian talks that began today, develops and consolidates the course toward mutual understanding, good- neighborliness, and cooperation, which, in our view, was clearly displayed during our talks in Vienna last July. The Soviet leadership highly values the good relations with neutral Austria and the contribution of its government and its political and public circles to the cause of improving the atmosphere in Europe and further advancing Soviet-Austrian cooperation.

For more than 3 decades now this cooperation has served as an example of full-blooded relations between states with different social systems. Soviet-Austrian relations, based on the unshakable foundation of the 1955 State Treaty and the law on permanent neutrality, are invariably distinguished by mutual respect and amicability, the desire to understand and take account of each other's interests, and a coincidence or proximity of views on the solution of many fundamental problems of our time. All of this determines their constant orientation toward a search for new paths to intensify political dialogue and cooperation.

In the time that has passed since our meeting in Vienna, the intensity of Soviet-Austrian ties and contacts has noticeably increased. This year alone, four members of the federal government have visited the Soviet Union: the ministers of foreign affairs, justice, defense, and the interior.

Trade and economic cooperation has acquired new dynamics. Joint efforts have combined to halt the reduction in trade turnover and to create preconditions for increasing it anew and to begin developing trade along the Danube. Austrian firms have obtained a large order to build the third section of the Belorussian Metallurgical Works in Zhlobin.

A progessive form of economic interaction such as joint enterprises is developing in an active way. The Soviet Union has concluded over 100 agreements on the creation of such enterprises with Western countries, with Austria accounting for one-tenth of them. Literally on the eve of your visit, yet another Soviet-Austrian enterprise was registered in our country, the "Volmag," which will produce materials for the production of color television sets.

The forthcoming signing of an agreement on the flight of an Austrian cosmonaut in a Soviet spacecraft will be an event which vividly reflects the spirit of the times and turns a new page in our relations. It will undoubtedly open up the prospects for our scientific-technical cooperation, particularly in the field of the peaceful use of outer space.

We are confident that in our dealings, the role and significance of cultural relations will grow because nothing enables people to understand one another better than a knowledge of their cultural values. After all, literature, music, the fine arts, and language itself are the priceless wealth and the soul of each nation.

Nor can one fail to mention that the Soviet Union and Austria have common interests in such an important field as ecology and environmental protection. We propose beginning joint scientific research into the problems of forest conservation, the purity of air and water basins, and on conducting joint operations to protect the ecology of the Danube.

We have the real prerequisites for the whole complex of relations between the USSR and Austria to continue developing along an ascending line. Readiness to act in just such a manner, as we understand, is evident on both sides. This means that we can raise our cooperation to a qualitatively new level.

The international ties of the Soviet Union, like any other sphere of activity of our state and society, are experiencing the enormous positive influence of restructuring. They are acquiring a new dynamism, a precise orientation toward improving international relations and toward building a secure and stable world free of nuclear weapons and violence. As was noted at the recent USSR Supreme Soviet session by Mikhail Gorbachev, we will continue steadfastly to pursue a course toward removing the danger of a nuclear catastrophe, toward establishing equal and mutually advantageous ties between countries and peoples of the world, and toward guaranteeing for every people the right to freely choose its destiny. Three and a half years ago our party turned toward new political thinking, the core of which is the acknowledgement of the priority of values common to all of mankind and its survival.

Intellect is that one and only basis which unites all of us who are alive. These words by the great Russian writer Lev Tolstoy acquire in our times special meaning. Mankind can survive only if it is able to rise above that which divides it; to bring down a reliable barrier to ideas of national, racial, or religious exclusivity; and to direct all of its intellectual potential and creative energy not at perfecting weapons of death, but at getting rid of them.

This year, 1988, has brought evidence that the new political thinking is beginning to find its way more confidently in international life. The first nuclear missiles have been dismantled. As a result of the signing of the Geneva agreements, faith in a peaceful future for the

Afghan people is stronger. It has proved possible to halt the senseless, bloody war between Iraq and Iran. The light of hope for a political settlement around Cambodia is becoming stronger.

At the moment, it is extremely important to reinforce the positive trends in world development. This concerns first and foremost the continent of Europe, which has always been a kind of barometer of East-West relations. Probably for the first time in the long years of postwar confrontation among the Europeans, not merely the hope, but a real possibility has emerged for organizing our lives and guaranteeing security on fundamentally new principles—with mutual reckoning of each other's legitimate interests and on the principles of peaceful coexistence, whereby fruitful cooperation in the interests of the peoples may come to replace a fruitless and ruinous arms race.

The all-European process has led us to the idea of erecting an all-European home. An increasing number of governments state their readiness to assist in its realization. We fully share your view, Mr Federal Chancellor, that the integration processes under way in Europe should not create new demarcation lines. The task consists in coordinating the interaction of all European countries.

The question is asked: Will the peoples of the continent not lose their identity in an all-European home, will their national rights not be encroached upon in this process? We consider it to be self-evident that an all-European home may be built only given rigorous respect for the national sovereignty of all countries, the political and territorial realities that have arisen in Europe, and the social choice made by this or that European people. The rich cultural and intellectual variety of the Europeans should be preserved. Only under such conditions is it possible to create stable and mutually trustful contacts and relations between European countries, and to overcome the barriers that divide them.

Today the task of ending military confrontation between blocs and of embarking on a radical reduction of conventional weapons has been moved to the forefront of European politics. If a genuine breakthrough is not achieved in the next few years, the process of nuclear disarmament may also largely come to a standstill and consequently the achievement of reliable security in Europe overall.

The concepts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries about how to approach this problem were sufficiently fully expressed at the July session of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states in the Polish capital. Of course, we are ready to attentively study counterproposals, too. The main thing is to embark without delay on specific steps with the aim of reducing European military arsenals to the minimum necessary for defensive needs. Therefore, we vigorously advocate that the talks on reducing armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe, whose mandate is now being drafted in the framework of the all-European meeting in Vienna, start this year.

In this connection, a few words about the Vienna meeting itself, which has entered the final phase.

Few uncoordinated questions remain, and essentially there are now no objective obstacles at all to prevent the meeting from being completed in the very near future with significant results. Unfortunately, certain delegations of NATO countries cannot resist the temptation to once again "lean" on the socialist countries in an effort to wring some kind of concessions from them. In a word, they are dragging things out.

One would still like to hope that common sense will ultiamtely prevail. A lot of work has been done in Vienna. The accords that have already been reached there are a qualitatively new milestone in the general European process. They represent its considerable enrichment in the military-political, trade and economic, ecological, and humanitarian fields. It is not in Europe's interest to delay their implementation.

We are aware of and value the fact that the Austrian Government, and you personally Mr Federal Chancellor, are focusing constant attention on the Vienna forum. As host to the forum, Austria has made considerable efforts to ensure its success. We are confident that even at the final section of the meeting the Austrian Republic, with the other members of the group of neutral and nonaligned countries, will be active in this direction. We are convinced that the unique role of a connecting link between East and West which these states play today will acquire even more significance in the future.

In ending my speech, I would like to say that the Soviet people regard the Austrian people with respect and affection, and place a high value on their rich traditions in the cultural field and other fields of creative activity. The policy of active neutrality pursued by Austria and its effective participation in international affairs have earned it a high reputation in the world community. The Soviet Union, as one of the signatories of the State Treaty, is ready to continue to suport in all ways the independent, neutral foreign policy course of the Republic of Austria.

We wish you, Mr Federal Chancellor and Mrs Christine Vranitzky, and the Austrian state figures accompanying you, a pleasant and useful stay on Soviet soil. May the good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Austria develop and gain strength to the good of their peoples and in the interest of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

Vranitzky Reply to Ryzhkov

PM1210075188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report on 10 October Kremlin dinner for Austrian Chancellor F. Vranitzky under the general heading: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Excerpts] A dinner was given in the Great Kremlin Palace on 10 October on behalf of the Soviet Government in honor of Austrian Federal Chancellor F. Vranitzky and his wife.

The guest was joined by the Austrian officials accompanying him on the trip.

Present on the Soviet side were Comrades N.I. Ryzhkov and his wife, Yu.D. Maslyukov, N.V. Talyzin, and other officials.

N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, made a speech at the dinner. [passage omitted on Ryzhkov speech]

Then F. Vranitzky spoke.

F. Vranitzky's Speech [subhead]

Last July you paid a visit to our country which raised the friendly relations between Austria and the Soviet Union, which are filled with trust, to an even higher level and opened up new prospects for their further development. I am glad to be able to continue our dialogue now in Moscow—a little more than a year later—and I thank you for the invitation and the cordial hospitality that I and the members of the Austrian delegation have received.

The timing of the visit to the Soviet Union seems to me particularly felicitous also because by visiting Moscow at this very moment, an Austrian Government head can obtain a clear picture of the process of continuity and the dynamics of movement into the future.

Continuity in that it was in Moscow, in 1943, that the Soviet, U.S., and British foreign ministers declared the restoration of an independent Austrian state as their goal, and this very year we have again been celebrating the significant contribution the Soviet Union made, at great cost, to the liberation of our country from Nazism. Continuity also in the sense that the development of good relations with the Soviet Union, characterized by trust, has always been the aim of every Austrian Federal Government; and our relations today, as in the past, are built on the solid foundation, laid in 1955, of the State Treaty and permanent neutrality status chosen by Austria itself.

Dynamic because the radical processes of domestic and foreign policy renewal which have begun in the Soviet Union will, I believe, open up new prospects in the development of our bilateral relations.

Austria, by virtue of its very status, is particularly interested in constructive participation in the detente process on the European Continent. Only a lessening of contradictions in the political and military spheres and the development of broad cooperation will lead to the degree of stability and security we are seeking. We are following with satisfaction the development of Soviet-American relations, which is characterized by realism and flexibility displayed by both sides, and we note that the USSR's "new political thinking" has made a decisive contribution to this progress. We share your view that the joint solution of mankind's pressing problems must have priority over ideological aims.

What are these problems? They are, above all, undoubtedly disarmament, the solution of regional conflicts, the narrowing of the gap between North and South and the reduction of the Third World's debt burden, and also the global aspects of environmental conservation. The aforementioned problems can only be solved through multilateral efforts, and this fact is now being increasingly acknowledged. Austria, as a state pursuing a policy of permanent neutrality, has always considered that its voice would be best heard in the context of an effectively operating community of states. Therefore we welcome the fact that the great powers are addressing the original concept of the tasks of the United Nations and its specialized bodies.

In the interest of mankind's survival and the rational use of limited material resources, there is an urgent need to halt the arms race and switch to extensive disarmament geared to achieving equilibrium at the lowest possible level.

The first concrete success in the nuclear disarmament sphere—the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles—demonstrated that the problem of verifying observance of disarmament agreements is solvable. The treaty created a qualitatively new situation. So it should be possible in the not-too-distant future to implement disarmament measures relating to U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear weapons arsenals, the production and storage of chemical weapons, and the conventional armaments potential.

The Vienna CSCE meeting is nearing its end. The progress achieved in recent weeks gives us the hope that all the sides now have the political will to overcome the last remaining obstacles. But we are already convinced that the results of the forum will have great significance.

The Vienna meeting final document is an expression of a qualitatively new state of relations between East and West. It will help eliminate barriers between our countries' citizens, contribute to the development of contacts and free exchange of information, and give positive momentum to cooperation in all spheres.

The talks in the military sphere, which will take place on the completion of the Vienna meeting and will also be held in Vienna, will open up prospects for the creation of a Europe in which stronger security is ensured with a smaller number of weapons. Because of its geographical location, Austria has a vital commitment to a stable correlation of forces which discourages conflict, the reduction of conventional armaments, and the strengthening of stability through new confidence-building measures. Therefore, we are relying on a dynamic working process and rapid results at these talks which, in any event, should be embarked on this year.

As for all-European economic ties, the conclusion of an agreement between the EC and CEMA has demonstrated that there is no longer any room in this sphere for thinking in terms of blocs.

All the aforementioned positive phenomena demonstrate that issues of our common continent have been set in motion, that we are dealing with a dynamic process which is a big challenge for us all. The implementation of the EC "single internal market" concept is another important element in this process.

The development of relations with the EC is a central task for Austria, and Austria's extensive, full participation in the Community's "single internal market," which is essentially in the formative stage, is one of the federal government's declared aims. It is not only a matter of important measures in the sphere of structural policy. The implementation of the aforementioned aim is intended to ensure that the Austrian economy can take greater advantage of and meet the demands of major markets in the future.

Of course, Austria's policy in the integration sphere has to be guided by common European foreign policy prerequisites, economic conditions and needs, and, in particular, the results it manages to achieve through efforts in the integration sphere. In this connection, the Austrian Government reserves the possibility of joining the EC. However—and I want to reemphasize this—Austria can only contemplate an arrangement with the EC that takes into account its status as a permanently neutral state and accords with the legal and political requirements of neutrality. These complex issues can only be examined and elucidated by means of talks with the EC.

At any rate, we are determined to prevent the confidence that Austrian neutrality enjoys in the international arena from being shaken, and we will continue our traditional policy of consistently advocating the elimination of elements of division in Europe and thereby contribute to building an "all-European home" in which the continent's diversity will cease to be a symbol of contradictions and disunity and will be the embodiment of stability and cooperation for the benefit of all.

Allow me once again to pay tribute to the high level and excellent quality of Austrian-Soviet relations. These relations are exceptionally full, as evidenced also by great, new, and bold projects.

Not long before my visit began, an accord was reached at the experts level on conducting a joint Austrian-Soviet space flight in accordance with a proposal you made during your visit to Austria. I am sure that this project has symbolic significance for the equally lofty plans in other areas of our bilateral cooperation, above all in the sphere of cultural exchange and the economy.

In recent months the list of our joint enterprises has been continually growing longer, and the delegation you sent to Austria to discuss cooperation in the sphere of setting up joint enterprises will give yet a further boost to this matter. Thus we are fulfilling our accord on seeking new forms of economic and scientific-technical cooperation. At the same time, I hope that new successes will also be achieved in the sphere of our traditional trade relations—for example, in the sphere of supplies of Austrian industrial equipment, machinery, and boats.

Austria also greeted with great interest reports on the priorities currently being put forward for the Soviet economy in the sphere of consumer goods supply, because it is in this sphere that we have traditional trade relations with your country.

How great our cooperation reserves are can be appreciated by the mere fact that I was able to hand over a list of Austrian proposals containing more than 100 projects with orders worth a total of 60 billion schillings.

My words have demonstrated, it seems to me, that the intensification of our bilateral dialogue is logical, in essence. There is a multitude of topics—from international political issues to our economic relations, which confirm the benefit and necessity of regular political dialogue at all kinds of levels. Austria is prepared to continue this dialogue.

So I ask you to join me in drinking a toast to your own and your wife's health, to the prosperity of the USSR peoples, and to the further successful development of friendly relations between our states in conditions of peace and security worldwide.

The speeches by N.I. Ryzhkov and F. Vranitzky were applauded. The dinner took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Vranitzky Assesses Ryzhkov Speech

AU1110110388 Vienna Domestic Service in German 0600 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] The 1st day of Federal Chancellor Vranitzky's visit to Moscow ended with a festive dinner in the Kremlin yesterday. The main topic of his discussions

with Prime Minister Ryzhkov was Austria's policy toward and possible membership in the EC. Christian Schiller reports from Moscow:

The federal chancellor described the results of his first round of talks on Austria's membership in the EC last night as not really gratifying, but not overly dramatic either. He said that Prime Minister Ryzhkov has essentially reiterated the reservations that were stated by Foreign Minister Shevardnadze in September.

[Begin Vranitzky recording] He showed very great understanding for a rearrangement of our relationship with the EC as a result of the more comprehensive engagement of external trade, and he also showed very great understanding for the fact that European integration is trying to find new approaches; however, like Shevardnadze, Ryzhkov has reservations against membership—even though he may put it a bit less diplomatically—and has advanced the expected and well-known argument that the existing order in postwar Europe is based on the fact that Austria is neutral, and if Austria were to become a member, its position as a neutral state would be jeopardized. [end recording]

Therefore, Vranitzky said, Ryzhkov's reaction did not surprise him; the prime minister merely focused on different aspects. Whereas Shevardnadze stated that Austria's membership in the EC would be incompatible with neutrality, Ryzhkov said that Austria's neutrality would be violated by full membership in the Community. Whereas Shevardnadze considered further detente in Europe a possible way out, Ryzhkov rather considered this a remote opportunity. Should there eventually be a nonaligned Europe, a new situation would be created, he said, however, that is out of the question now.

Vranitzky seemed to be bewildered by this clear rebuff on the eve of his meeting with party-state leader Gorbachev, but then he tried to modify the differences between Shevardnadze and Ryzhkov. He said that during the gala dinner in the Kremlin, the prime minister himself had tried to de-dramatize the situation. Vranitzky believes that the sharper tone is particularly attributable to differences in the two politicians' temperaments. However, according to diplomatic circles in Moscow, Ryzhkov consciously emphasized certain aspects more strongly. They say that the Soviet Foreign Ministry has been annoyed by the euphoric headlines in Austrian dailies following the meeting between Mock and Shevardnadze.

Ryzhkov read a prepared statement to expound the Soviet reservations about Austria's seeking membership in the EC. Whatever may be hidden behind the Kremlin's words, Vranitzky is determined to continue the federal government's EC policy. Contacts with Brussels will be continued, he said, and if the EC partners' political conditions do not contradict the concept that Austria has of neutrality, Austria will seek membership. Nothing in the Soviet behavior suggests that Moscow is expecting a change of course by Austria, and no attempt has been made to exert pressure.

Vranitzky was also asked by the Austrian press whether it made sense to go to Moscow shortly after the vice chancellor's visit to discuss the same problems again. Was this not a provocation for Moscow to formulate existing reservations more clearly every time? The federal chancellor said he did not want to sweep this objection under the rug; the unfavorable timing was due to the fact that Mock's visit had been repeatedly postponed. He said he did not consider it sensible to postpone his own Moscow visit until next year because there are a number of important economic projects that have to be discussed with the Soviet Union. Moscow has become a difficult, price-conscious market, he said, that we have to try to court more intensely in the future. At the same time, export policy offers numerous new prospects, Vranitzky said, mentioning the example of an Austrian firm developing a supply goods industry in the Soviet Union. The chancellor will continue his economic talks with Prime Minister Ryzhkov today. During his meeting with Gorbachev this afternoon, he will broach the EC issue once again.

Ryzhkov Meets Austrian Businessmen

LD1110170088 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—"The future of Soviet-Austrian economic relations depends on how soon we will succeed in finding new, more advanced forms of relationship that would meet the spirit of the time," the head of the Soviet Governnment told a group of Austrian businessmen today.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met the businessmen at the pineapple drawing-room of the Grand Kremlin Palace.

The meeting was attended by ten directors of major Austrian firms. Heads of seventy companies arrived in the Soviet Union with Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, on an official visit here at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Among those who were introduced by Dr. Vranitzky to the Soviet premier were Helmut Schuster of Anker Brot, Robert Erlich of Austria Metall A.G., Guido Schmidt-Chiari of Kreditanstalt-Bankverein and Helmut Wolf of Voest Alpine.

The two-hour informal talk confirmed that the Austrian business community had been showing enhanced interest in the USSR since Ryzhkov's visit to Austria.

The Austrian visitors handed over to the head of the Soviet Government their memoranda containing specific information related to the activity of joint Soviet-Austrian ventures.

Ryzhkov and Vranitzky signed an agreement on organising a joint Soviet-Austrian space mission. The agreement will open a new page in scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries.

Vranitzky, Kamentsev at Meeting

LD1210091388 Moscow TASS in English 0804 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 12 TASS—Questions connected with a further development of Soviet-Austrian trade and economic cooperation were discussed at a meeting of business circles of the two countries with Franz Vranitzky, federal chancellor of Austria, that was held today at the press centre of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The signing of a number of agreements between Soviet foreign trade organizations and Austrian firms before its beginning was the peculiarity of the meeting.

From the Soviet side the meeting was attended by Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Foreign Economic Commission, Vladislav Malkevich, president of the Presidium of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other representatives of Soviet organizations.

Vranitzky Meet Gorbachev

LD1110202588 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev received Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky in the Kremlin today. Although this was their first personal meeting, the conversation was marked by the good knowledge of each other's positions and views and broad mutual understanding on major issues of world and European politics and bilateral cooperation.

Gorbachev expressed confidence that the federal chancellor's visit and talks would become a milestone event in Soviet-Austrian relations which could be considered exemplary, especially if one took into account the fact that these were relations of countries with different social systems.

They had withstood the trials of the cold war and accumulated valuable experience and rich potential for assured development in the new conditions, for rising to a new level.

These relations greatly contributed not only to European, but also to international politics. They needed constant deepening and attention. Progress in USSR-Austria relations was required not only for the two countries, but also for all of Europe.

The business-like amicable atmosphere, characteristic of negotiations at government level and of contacts between Austrian representatives and their Soviet colleagues was duly assessed.

The perfection and introduction of new forms of economic cooperation were strengthening the foundation of all other ties—scientific, cultural, public and human contacts.

Gorbachev paid attention to the approach displayed by the Austrian side. It demonstrated, specifically, real support for the Soviet policy of perestroyka whose impact, in Vranitzky's words, was spreading far beyond the Soviet Union.

In assessing European process, Gorbachev underlined the original and independent contribution of the neutral and non-aligned countries, singling out Austria's active and constructive role.

Attention was given to integration processes in Europe and possible implications of establishing a united market. Not all issues were clear, Gorbachev observed, they demanded serious study.

It was perfectly obvious that economic integration was an objective process. It was also obvious that economic ties preceded political interaction. And each government would decide about its possibilties of influencing the political consequences of integration.

The peoples who had for centuries, sometimes in bloody struggle, sought national independence would hardly agree to any formula of "limited sovereignty."

Combining economic internationalisation with political independence was a great problem. On the other hand, what would be the future of the all-European process if the Western part of Europe locked itself up within the rigid framework of the new formations? How would it be possible to build a "European home"? All this required thorough study, for the Europeans should live together irrespective of their social system, political regime and so on.

"We are passing through an extremely important stage in European history. One should understand it well and act in keeping with realities. Each people's desire to preserve its sovereignty is one reality."

"Internationalisation of economic processes is another reality. The existence of East and West Europe, which should coexist on the basis of free choice, non-use of force, mutual respect and useful cooperation is yet another reality.

"The aspiration of all Europeans to move towards one another and have reliable prospects for the future is, after all, a reality, too. One should think and think about all that."

The sides' assessment of the state of affairs at the Vienna talks was practically identical. They expressed readiness to facilitate the earliest elaboration of the mandate so as the talks on reducing conventional arms and armed forces in Europe could be started already this year.

In this connection Gorbachev reiterated the constructive role played by the neutral and non-aligned countries, including Austria, in binding the two blocs.

In exchanging views on the general trend of world development, they singled out the role of public sentiments pressing for the search for ways to improving the international situation.

Naturally, the "normal" governments, that is governments that are responsible before their peoples, cannot ignore these sentiments.

In translating them into the political plane, into practice, it is required, of course, to apply precise appraisal of and consideration for all factors.

As to the Soviet leadership, Gorbachev said, "We have arrived at the firm conclusion: to proceed not only from our own interests, but also to take into account the interests of others, the interests of the international community.

"Being guided by such an approach, it is possible to alter the world for the better. At this moment, this approach is especially important on the issue of conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe."

Some conceptual issues of the international workers' movement were considered during the conversation.

In the conditions of perestroyka, Gorbachev said, "we understand the famous formula by Lenin that one can become a communist only after he has enriched his memory with the wealth of knowledge accumulated by mankind in a way that we should use to the maximum the entire modern experience of mankind and, of course, the accomplishments of democratic, progressive forces.

"There is much here to which we should give a serious thought."

In conclusion Gorbachev assessed Vranitzky's visit to the USSR as a significant element of the year's international political activity and assured him that his country had in the person of the USSR a firm advocate of the further improvement and development of Soviet-Austrian relations.

The chancellor's adviser Eva Novotny, and Ambassadors Herbert Grubmayr and Gennadiy Shikin were present during the conversation.

Vranitzky on Gorbachev Talks

AU1210123188 Vienna Television Service in German 2100 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Interview with Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky in a Moscow studio by moderator Robert Hochner—live]

[Text] [Hochner] Good evening, Mr Chancellor.

[Vranitzky] Good evening.

[Hochner] Mr Chancellor, during your visit yesterday and today, different statements were made about the Soviet position on Austria's ambitions regarding the EC. Let me ask you very directly: Do you believe that the Soviet Union could live with Austria as a neutral EC member?

[Vranitzky] The Soviet representatives, primarily Prime Minister Ryzhkov, said during the first round of negotiations yesterday that they cannot bring Austria's membership into line with our neutrality. I tried to discuss this with Ryzhkov in a very long talk and I had another long, private talk with him in the evening. When he summarized the delegations' talks at the final meeting today he did not use the same words he used yesterday. He formulated it as follows: We consider the fact that Austria's neutrality must not be given up to be the guideline of our talks.

That actually brings us to the theme of our talks: On the one hand, we must prepare and conduct negotiations with the EC, and on the other—and I have always said and stressed this, and I hold to it—we will not adopt a solution which would violate, restrict, or minimize our permanent neutrality in any way. That is the formula to which the entire theme of the talks can be reduced.

[Hochner] Mr Chancellor, that prompts us to ask you about the role or importance of the Soviet Union's position. Would Austria seek full membership in the EC, if the EC were to accept our proviso of neutrality and if that were no problem, even though the Soviet Union continued to have reservations? In other words, would we even seek full membership in the EC although the Soviet Union had reservations regarding our neutrality?

[Vranitzky] This is essentially a problem of the confidence that the country has gained and has been able to convey. We have proved for 33 years—since 1955—without hesitation and without any problems that we fully and totally observe our neutrality. In doing so, we have certainly created for ourselves, and we deserve, a certain respect, so that people believe that we will continue to observe neutrality. That is one thing. Second, I do not want to create the impression that we consider neutrality a sort of burden or yoke. On the contrary. We have fared very well with it for over 3 decades, and I believe for certain that the majority of the Austrian people do not want to give up this neutrality. Therefore, it is not a burden, but an asset, a value.

In addition, and in answer to your question, I think that if a country has been able for so many years and decades to credibly represent its neutrality, this theme can be discussed objectively. We do not have to tell anybody that some people say that we would be neutral anyway, while others say that no, under such circumstances you would not be neutral anymore. I believe that we can objectify it, and we will make every effort to demonstrate a credible, clear, and unobjectionable position.

[Hochner] Mr Chancellor, you are the first Western politician to talk with party leader and now also chief of state Mikhail Gorbachev, 10 days after he imposed his line about Soviet domestic policy on those people who were trying to curb perestroyka. What was your impression during the talk? Were you under the impression that Gorbachev could now give the go-ahead for further reforms, particularly in the economic area?

[Vranitzky] Let me say a word about the relations between Austria and the Soviet Union, and about the issue of neutrality and the Soviet Union that I discussed with Gorbachev, and then I will answer your second question. Gorbachev stressed the role of neutral and nonaligned countries in Europe very clearly, particularly regarding disarmament and ensuring peace. He highly praised Austria and said that it plays an important part in this process. We hope that the CSCE follow-up meeting in Vienna will be concluded soon, and that immediately afterward, the next disarmament conference will be held in Vienna. The Soviet Union has strongly advocated the idea that this conference should take place in Vienna.

During the talks, Gorbachev conveyed the impression that his reform plans, his new thinking, perestroyka, certainly will have to overcome many difficulties in the Soviet Union. However, he also seems to be optimistic. I would compare him with somebody who faces an immense pile of stones, but is confident that his muscles and his shovel will be sufficient tools for him to be successful in removing them.

[Hochner] To expand on your analogy, he might not just use a shovel but perhaps even earth moving equipment. You went to Moscow with a very large delegation, with the goal of cooperating in and—why not put it frankly—profiting from perestroyka. Are you under the impression that in the new era, the era of perestroyka, in which money is more important than politically justified orders, Austria will have an equally good opportunity to do business with the East as it had before?

[Vranitzky] Since 1973, I have travelled to the Soviet Union in various professional capacities. It is no exaggeration to say that I have never seen such a basically favorable and accommodating attitude of the Soviet leadership toward Austria—not in the sense of giving something, but in the sense of seeking cooperation. However, I must also add that the business representatives who accompany me have made particularly great efforts. I think that if I tell you that we have submitted about 100 projects involving possible sales worth 60 billion schillings, which will of course not nearly be entirely realized; and if I tell you in addition that we are not merely dealing with the exchange of goods and natural gas, for instance, but with prospective cooperation, the exchange of management, and so forth, you will be able to judge that we can give a very favorable assessment of bilateral trade relations in particular.

[Hochner] Let me finally ask a question about political relations. Mikhail Gorbachev has recently been talking about the common European home, regarding the future European policy. There are indications that Austria could have a special function in this respect. Did you discuss with party leader Gorbachev whether Austria could assume a special bridging function in the Soviet Union's future policy toward the West and in the common European home?

[Vranitzky] Gorbachev repeatedly pointed out the favorable cooperation between our two countries. He also stressed Austria's role as a sort of catalyst in the upcoming projects, meaning disarmament in the conventional area. Assessing this talk, which was an extremely polite talk—I cannot describe it as a friendly talk, because that would be an exaggeration for the very first visit, but as a talk which was highly marked by partnership—I would say that Gorbachev sees an important role for Austria in this international structure. Without being particularly emotional, I must tell you that this is necessary and good, because the West Europeans, primarily the FRG, pursue a particularly active policy toward Eastern Europe. Chancellor Kohl will visit here soon. We have every reason to deepen and expand our position toward Eastern Europe in a way that allows us to further secure the safe economic and political basis that was created by my predecessors.

[Hochner] Mr Chancellor, I thank you very cordially for this talk and for being prepared to appear in the Moscow studio at this late hour, 10 minutes past midnight.

[Vranitzky] You are welcome.

Latin America & Caribbean

Nicaragua Passes 'State of Emergency' Law

LD0810162388 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Managua October 8 TASS—By TASS correspondent Igor Pshenichnikov:

After two days of heated debates Nicaragua's National Assembly passed a bill on the state of emergency by the majority of votes. The draft of the bill was sent by the president a month ago. The new law regulates the powers of the president and empowers him to declare, without consultation with the legislature, a state of emergency on

the entire territory of the republic or a part of it in the event of war, the threat to national security, calamities or deterioration of the economic situation of Nicaragua.

The president, in particular, received the right to suspend the constitution and the operation of the mass media if it met the interests of state security.

In the event of catastrophic economic situation he can impose a temporary ban on the activity of private enterprises which inflict damage on internal consumption and destabilise national export.

At the same time the Nicaraguan Government resolutely demanded that the right-wing opposition newspaper PRENSA stop its slander campaign aimed at destabilising the revolutionary popular government. The Ministry of the Internal Affairs of the republic said on Friday in a statement here that fabrications published by this newspaper on the alleged violations of human rights in the country represented violation of the constitution and ran counter to the interests of ensuring Nicaragua's state security.

PRENSA, the document pointed out, openly acts in the interests of the U.S. Administration, which is looking for a pretext to step up its pressure on the Sandinist government. This newspaper actually paves the way for the White House to take steps to resume American Military aid to the Contra hirelings under the "pretext of violation by the Nicaraguan Government of human rights and Guatemala peace accords."

Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez told a press conference here that the government of the Republic had taken a decision to institute legal proceedings against the paper PRENSA for spreading lies and disinformation. For such activities, the newspaper PRENSA will be punished according to law, the vice president said.

Central American Efforts Followed With Interest

LD0510212288 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 5 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow October 5 TASS—TASS diplomatic correspondent reports:

In the Soviet Union they follow with keen interest the practical steps that are being made by Central American countries in setting up a mechanism for a political settlement in the region. The Soviet diplomatic sources believe that the scheduled mid-November summit of the leaders of Central American countries attests to the determination of all Latin Americans to settle the conflict situation in the region and to establish a lasting and durable peace there.

In Moscow they paid attention to the speech on Tuesday, with which Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contrera addressed the 43rd session of the United Nations General Assembly. He spoke out for the dispatch of an "international peace force" to Honduran borders with El Salvador and Nicaragua. The objective of this force, in the words of the foreign minister, is to guarantee the non-use of the Honduran territory close to the border by armed formations other than army troops.

It is noteworthy that the Honduran foreign minister's proposal echoes the initiatives of the Sandinista leadership. Suffice it to recall that Nicaragua's president Daniel Ortega said late last month that his government intended to raise at the mid-November summit in El Salvador the question of an early establishment on the border between Nicaragua and Honduras [of] a supervision and security force composed of contingents to be contributed by Canada, Spain, the FRG and a country from the Contadora or support group.

Also meriting attention are the statements made by Mauricio Granillo, El Salvador's permanent representative at the Organisation of American States, who advocated liquidation of foreign military presence in Central America and the establishment of a reasonable military balance there.

A peaceful and just settlement of the conflict situations in the regions can, in the opinion of the Soviet diplomatic community, be achieved only by accomodating the interests of all the countries of the region, through respect for their right to independent development without any outside interference.

Delegates Attend Peruvian Party Celebration

PM1110124388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 88 Second Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Zagorskiy report: "Sixty Years of Struggle"]

[Text] Lima, 8 Oct—A ceremonial session devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Peruvian Communist Party [PCP] has been held here. It was attended by delegations from its provincial organizations, representatives of many other Peruvian political parties, and envoys from fraternal communist parties and liberation movements in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

CPSU delegation head N.S. Igrunov, second secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, read out a message of greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the PCP Central Committee and to all Peruvian Communists. To applause, a portrait of V.I. Lenin was presented as a gift to the Peruvian comrades.

Secretary-General of the PCP Central Committee Jorge del Prado, who delivered the report, dwelt on the complexity of the domestic situation and on the important role played by the party in the life of the country, in the strengthening of the left-wing forces' cohesion, and in the working people's struggle for their rights. The Peruvian

Communists' full support for the processes initiated by the policy of restructuring and glasnost, which are currently under way in the Soviet Union, was reaffirmed.

Anniversary Greetings Extended

PM0710154588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Oct 88 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee greetings message to Peruvian Communist Party Central Committee on jubilee]

[Text] To the Peruvian Communist Party [PCP] Central Committee

The CPSU Central Committee sends fraternal congratulations to the PCP Central Committee and all Peruvian Communists on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the PCP.

Soviet Communists express profound solidarity with the courageous struggle of their Peruvian comrades for the vital interests of working people, and for the country's democratic and independent development. We know the PCP as a party that is invariably true to the revolutionary ideals and principles of proletarian internationalism.

We wish the PCP success in its activity for the good of its motherland, and in creatively applying scientific socialism in the new stage that the communist movement is experiencing, following the precepts of the founder of the PCP, that outstanding Latin American Marxist Jose Carlos Mariatega.

May the friendship between the CPSU and the PCP and between the Soviet and Peruvian peoples thrive!

CPSU Central Committee

Peruvian Foreign Trade Official Signs Agreement

PM0710143188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Talks have been held at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations with a Peruvian delegation headed by Enrique Cornejo Ramirez, president of Peru's Foreign Trade Institute.

A Soviet-Peruvian intergovernmental agreement on deliveries of Soviet machines and equipment to Peru was signed.

Enrique Cornejo Ramirez was received by K.F. Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations.

Sarney Visit Termed Brazilian-Soviet 'Milestone'

LD1010105988 Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] Brasilia October 10 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Golenkov reports:

The forthcoming official visit of Brazil's President Jose Sarney to the USSR is bound to become a historical milestone in the development of bilateral Brazilian-Soviet relations. This was stated in an interview to the TASS correspondent by General Secretary of Brazil's Foreign Ministry Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima.

Having favourably appraised the results of the Moscow September meeting of the inter-governmental Soviet-Brazilian commission for trade-economic and scientific-technological cooperation, he said that its work had demonstrated profound interest of the business communities of the two countries in expansion of mutually beneficial relations in different areas.

We hope that the documents to be signed in Moscow in the course of Jose Sarney's visit, due to begin on October 17, will open up new broad vistas for the relations between Brazil and the USSR to be raised to a new level up to the potentialities and the significance of our countries, said Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima.

Political & Social

Gorbachev Opens Lease-Contract Farmers Meeting

LD1210083088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Today a meeting has opened at the CPSU Central Committee, attended by leaders of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises of the agro-industrial complex which use the lease contract; workers of lease contract collectives; secretaries of raykoms; scientists; and specialists in agriculture. Questions pertaining to the development of lease contract relations in the country's agro-industrial complex are being discussed. The meeting was opened by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Zaykov Attends Moscow Development Session

PM1210092588 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 Oct 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Focusing Attention on Comprehensive Development"]

[Excerpts] The elaboration of the general plan for developing and shaping Moscow and Moscow Oblast through the year 2010 is nearing completion. This comprehensive document lists the basic features of the capital's socioeconomic, urban plannning, and ecological development. [passage omitted]

A group of leading architects from the capital and leaders and experts from the Moscow Gorispolkom, the Mosstroykomitet [expansion unknown], and the Moscow Gorispolkom's Main Administration for Architecture yesterday visited Severnyy Chertanov, where the prospects for the capital's comprehensive development were discussed using this residential district as an example.

L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, took part in the discussion. [passage omitted]

L.N. Zaykov visited a kindergarten built according to a new design. The staff and the parents of its pupils spoke favorably of the kindergarten. [passage omitted]

Ukrainian Central Committee Plenum Ends 11 Oct

LD1110133988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] The plenum of the Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee ended today. On the 2d day of its work the participants heard and examined a report by Masol, chairman of the republican Council of Ministers, on measures to improve the provision of food to the population. Despite the fact that in the last 2 years production and state procurement of agricultural products have increased, the standard of its production does not fully satisfy the food requirements. As before, the question of provisions of livestock products to the population, primarily meat products, still remains acute. There are several causes, including the low productivity of livestock in many kolkhozes and sovkhozes and the unjustified reduction of cows in a number of oblasts. The Ukraine Council of Ministers has worked out additional measures to improve the supply of food to the population for the remaining 2 years of the 5-year plan. They have been approved by Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee.

The plenum has adopted a decision on commissions of the republican Central Committee for the most important directions of party-political work.

Shcherbitskiy Retains Post

AU1110113088 Paris AFP in English 1112 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Moscow, Oct 11 (AFP)—Veteran Politburo member Vladimir Shcherbitskiy Tuesday retained his post as first secretary of the western republic of the Ukraine at the end of a two-day meeting of the Ukrainian Central Committee, a spokesman at party headquarters in Kiev told AFP.

The head of the Central Committee's press section, Anatoliy Priyadko, said that only two officials were affected by personnel changes decided by the plenum. Ivan Grintsov, the first secretary of Sumy region, replaced Ivan Mozgovoy as a Central Committee secretary in charge of agriculture.

Mr. Mozgovoy, 61, retired.

Speculation had mounted that 70-year-old Mr. Shcherbitskiy might have lost his position as party leader after 16 years in office, which would have signalled his departure from the ruling Politburo.

The Ukrainian leader is the last surviving member of the Brezhnev "old guard" in the Politburo.

Other leading conservatives had been marginalised or retired from the Politburo at an emergency Central Committee meeting on September 30 which consolidated Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's power inside the top leadership.

Report on Latvian Leaders' Addresses to Rally

LD1110122988 Riga in Latvian to Europe 0830 GMT 9 Oct 88

[From the "Amber Coast" program]

[Text] The first decrees to be signed by President Anatoliy Gorbunov, the newly promoted chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, are essential. The repayment of a real debt to rural areas of Latvia, the rebirth of the role of the Latvian language at state level,

and also the place of national symbols in our life—all of these are processes in the social life of Latvia which can be regarded as a beginning for more serious thoughts about economic self-dependence, the republic's citizenship, and other legal safeguards for further consolidating Latvia's sovereignty.

Because of this the people follow with great interest every utterance by the new chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. So it was at the Mezaparks song festival, where participants in the "For a Law-Governed State in Latvia" rally gathered on Friday. The organizers' forecast of a possible 100,000 participants was exceeded.

We include in our program today an excerpt from the speech by Anatoliy Gorbunov, chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

[Begin recording] Three days ago I had a long conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev. I want to tell you that the leader of our country is in excellent form. [applause]

The reason for the conversation was my candidature for the position of chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. I was surprised and pleased by the tone and content of the conversation, which I could briefly express as follows, in his own words: Let us not think about our chairs and positions, but let us think about our country. [applause]

I spoke frankly about our republic's problems, and I received in return understanding and support.

And so, late last night, destiny decided that for the first time I should sign the decrees of the highest organ of power in the republic.

You will certainly be interested, of course, in my program for the days to come, but I want to tell you now of just a few basic principles.

I shall stand for real sovereignty of the people, and I shall do everything to prevent a rift between the government and the people. [applause] [end recording]

[Announcer] Participants in the rally, supporting the orators they liked, were generous with their applause and acknowledgements, as can be heard after the speech by Anatoliy Gorbunov. [applause and the repeated slogan of: "Long live the (?fatherland)!" can be heard]

Various social groups participated in the rally for a law-governed state in Latvia, along with various movements which took part in the Popular Front of Latvia coordination center. We include in our program today an excerpt from the speech by Eduards Berklavs. He is the leader of Latvia's national independence movement.

[Begin Berklavs recording] I understand that we have come here today to help those who must guarantee a law-governed state, who must look after the observance of human rights, in order that they can decide whether we have or have not a law-governed state. This question is not yet clear to them, as we heard in the dispute on the television. [applause]

We have come here to prompt them about what should be done, to offer at least some questions, some suggestions about what should be done to ensure that these human rights are observed to the full extent, so that Latvia will really become a law-governed state.

But, to discover this it seems to me that first of all we must ascertain what it is we have now. Do we or do we not have a law-governed state? I think it is difficult to say that we have a law-governed state if we remember what happened in 1941, on June 14th, or what happened in 1949. [reference to the period of mass deportation of Balts]

Some may ask: Why touch upon these questions again? I think we must discuss and remind ourselves of these questions as long as we do not ascribe special significance to these acts. Otherwise the participants in those events will not, after all, obtain personal pensions. [loud applause and shouts of approval]

Can one talk about some kind of state governed by law if we are saying that we must save the coast, we must save the sea, we must save our rivers, we must save the lakes and forests, but the government wrings its hands helplessly and says there is no law which could be effective against the actions of those heads of departments in Moscow who have led us to this disaster. [applause] Can one talk about some kind of law-governed state if we are put into a militia vehicle and taken to court for legally trying to lay flowers at the Lenin Monument or for legally trying to speak at the monument of liberty? [applause] [end recording]

[Announcer] This has been Latvian radio's "Amber Coast" program. We have reported on the rally for a law-governed state in Latvia which took place Friday at the Mezaparks arena with the participation of more than 100,000 people, among whom were many well known in Latvia choirs. Folklore ensembles, composers, and conductors took care of the musical backbone of this rally. The sound of the combined choirs was no less convincing than at the song festivals. [report ends with recording of the crowd singing a well-known Latvian patriotic song accompanied by a brass band and applause]

Speech by Popular Front Leader Reported

LD1110131788 Riga in Latvian to Europe 0830 GMT 9 Oct 88

[From the "Amber Coast" program]

[Text] The constituent congress of the Popular Front of Latvia is at present at the center of attention of all Latvia. Its proceedings are being relayed by Latvian

radio and television. Journalists from all-union publications, foreign newspapers, magazines, and radio and television studios are participating in its work. In the first insight into the proceedings of the congress on the "Amber Coast," we include an excerpt of the speech by Janis Peters at the opening of the congress. As he himself said, he has not known such great satisfaction and such good luck as he has in his 38 days as the head of the organizing committee of the Popular Front of Latvia constituent congress.

We have chosen an excerpt in which Janis Peters mentioned also that section of the Latvian people who live abroad or outside the boundaries of Latvia in our country. These sections of our people are also represented at the Popular Front of Latvia constituent congress.

[Begin Peters recording] At this Popular Front constituent congress, perhaps the question of organizing support groups of expatriate Latvians and compatriots living in other republics within the framework of the Popular Front of Latvia has to be examined.

Especially important, especially important is also the question of Latvia's participation in the International Olympic Committee. The will of our people on this question, in my mind, was vividly demonstrated yesterday at the people's demonstration at Mezaparks.

Esteemed delegates and guests, my introductory speech at our historic Popular Front constituent congress has been based more on a review of nationality relations and less on the questions concerning the economy and culture of the Latvia to be built. At the same time, however, it is clear to everyone that these are mutually connected problems. Nationality problems cannot be solved without the economic problems being solved. Latvia will not escape from the snares laid by bureaucracy if the resolutions on a change in the republic's economy will remain only at the level of political declarations. Nationality relations will not be democratized if the economy will not democratize itself. But democratization is possible only in a decentralized system. A decentralized economy is a road to democracy. Democracy, in its turn, is the road to the republic's sovereignty and to the self-determination of the people.

It is a difficult road ahead for the Popular Front, together with the progressive forces of all society. This is the road to a law-governed state, to a state which would undertake responsibility toward its citizens, and which would defend the right of every citizen to also express unofficial opinions. Our people have no other alternative. There is only the choice of the difficult road, because what else is left for a people who are changing from a nation into a group of inhabitants, as they have now begun to be classified? This is a dangerous classification because it induces us to forget that the Latvians are a nation that lives in its country, while people of other nationalities ethnically belong to those nations whose state formations exist outside Latvia and which also defend their interests. At the same time we are all citizens of Latvia, and although this status has not yet been laid down officially, it actually demands an urgent solution.

I am not applying these reflections as a reproach to any honest alien in Latvia. I am applying these opinions to economists and planners, at the center and also in the republic, who until now have either deliberately or unintentionally forgotten that the ethical aspect—in other words, nationality interests—also must be adhered to in the economy. However, not just officials are to be blamed, because operating in a country in which legality is the sunken castle [reference to Latvian song "The Castle of Light" about a castle that flourished in ancient times, then sank to the bottom of a lake, but which one day would rise again], only just now called by its name, they have been quite frequently compelled to act illegally and unethically.

So then, a law-governed state. This aim, proposed by the party, must become the credo of the Popular Front of Latvia. If it is a front, then it is a struggle. If it is a struggle, then it is together with all the progressive, unsubmissive forces against bureaucratic arbitrariness, administrative socialism, and Stalinist metastases.

But a struggle is not only demonstrations, street marches, meetings, and picketing. A political struggle is the functioning of all democratic institutions. We live in a system of unanimity. The present system of unanimity, however, qualitatively differs from the single-party monopolization of power of Stalin and Brezhnev. A pluralism of opinions is being released in the present situation, in the Communist Party itself and throughout society. It is the sacred duty of us all to promote this pluralism.

There is no need, in my opinion, for the Popular Front of Latvia to strive to become a party, because even the Communist Party's greatest misfortune is a tendency to become bureaucratized and compromised with a superfluous, hampering administration apparatus which slows down development and warns the peoples of the world against the model of Soviet administrative socialism.

In the present day a pluralism of opinions prevails also in the newly founded Popular Front of Latvia. It is precisely this, in my opinion, that will help the Popular Front to participate in Latvia's democratization and formation into a law-governed state. So then, the struggle for the interests of the life of the republic and of the people: By this I mean elections.

In accordance with the USSR Constitution, the Popular Front of Latvia will have the right to nominate its candidates at the elections of Soviets of all levels, even as far as the Latvian SSR and the USSR Supreme Soviets.

Democratic elections form the basis of a political struggle. Only elections, elections that take place in accordance with the will of the peoples, will abolish the previous practice of the rise of persons in accordance with the principle of negative selection, when positions were occupied by careerist toadies, bribe-takers and, as shown by the examples of some republics and even of the center, criminals who have already gone and still continue to go on trial.

Esteemed delegates, the fate of Latvia is in our hands. The 20th century has taken Latvians to the crest of the wave of history and has also driven them deep into the abyss. The 20th century, the first after 700 years of slavery, is marked with the founding of the first state system of Latvia, and in the present day we are invited to restore it with a quality of true socialism, recognizing the existence of the Republic of Latvia from 1920 to 1940.

The Popular Front of Latvia, whose organization began intensively on 30 August 1988, when the cultural council of the creative unions and initiative groups came together, is becoming a public and political reality.

Latvia's Union of Writers and especially Latvia's Union of Artists has not engaged in these 38 days in questions of creative work and culture. We had to listen to the people's pain and yearning. But the people's trust and determination to act definitely and to straighten their backs after many years of administrative oppression have proved to be even stronger than the pain and yearning.

There are still at the present moment people on high rostrums recommending to us to paint and write rather than meddle in politics. Let me tell you in this connection, esteemed comrades, that we would very willingly do that if the politicians had not led the party, the state, and the people to a dead end. [applause] We will return to the blank sheet of paper and canvas as soon as we feel that people find consolation for their pain and thirst at the soviet of people's deputies, at the party committee, and at the executive power bodies, and not at the writers', artists' and other creative unions. [applause]

Why do you not reproach those writers who during wartime voluntarily went to the front to fight? Why do you reproach us when we are going to defend our homeland and fatherland in the Popular Front? [applause]

The doctors who have joined the Popular Front organizing committee will return to their hospitals, engineers to their offices, and music and art experts will devote themselves to the analysis and study of the pure arts only when the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet is capable of adopting a legislative act, independent of the administrative center but discussed among the Latvian people, on the republic's citizenship, and only when the Council of Ministers guarantees a logical economy that does not further the destruction of the nation.

The artistic and technical intelligentsia will be able to return properly to their professions only when Latvia is not being sold off to centralized officialdom, the officialdom. Until this stops we will sacrifice our talents to politics, even though we are only amateurs in political work. What use are our poems and paintings, our symphonies and stage plays, if the people are perishing, if the law-governed state system of the Latvian SSR is collapsing, if self-awareness is abused as nationalism, and if vagrant cosmopolitism earns for itself the title of internationalism? [applause] [end recording]

Latvian Supreme Soviet Views Language Issue

LD1110124688 Riga in Latvian to Europe 2103 GMT 9 Oct 88

[From the "Amber Coast" program]

[Text] A resolution has been adopted on making Latvian the state language. In discussing this resolution at the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet session, almost all the speakers addressing this issue emphasized the necessity of making Latvian the language of business if we want to realistically consolidate the functioning and development of our language. Gunars Asaris, the chief architect of Riga and chairman of the board of the union of architects, also spoke on this issue:

[Begin Asaris recording] How far have we gone in this respect? I would like to mention only one example. May those who perhaps have simply been a little mistaken here excuse me, but, in speaking honestly, it appears to me that it is an impermissible mistake that an invitation to a meeting of the commission of people's education, science, and culture of our republic's Supreme Soviet, at which we discuss questions of Latvian, is sent to me in Russian.

I think that this is a question of principle, and that this is a mistake of principle. It is absolutely clear that the language of interrepublic communications and business, of centralized reports which we discuss and of forms is and will remain Russian.

A certain time will of course be required—1, 2, probably more years—as a transition period for consolidating the necessary material basis, about which there was already talk, beginning with the elementary typists with the Roman alphabet. However, under conditions of general understanding, respect, and tolerance, these would, after all, be questions of a purely technical nature.

Moreover, it is necessary to emphasize this: In parallel with the indigenous nation, the Latvians, people of Russian nationality and people belonging to several other nationalities and ethnic groups who live in the republic must have the right, each of them, to acquire at least a basic education in their native language. Showing disrespect toward the language of any people is to be regarded as a transgression against human rights.

Moreover, we believe that it must be envisaged that names of persons and placenames in Latvia be classified as cultural assets and the state should guarantee their protection.

These and other similar questions should be reflected in item 2 of the mentioned project, in the draft law on the use of Latvian and other languages, and should be submitted for an extensive discussion by the entire people. [end recording]

Songayla Speech at Lithuanian Plenum Cited

LD0710203688 Vilnius in English to North America 2300 GMT 5 Oct 88

[Text] As we have reported already, a plenum of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee was held in Vilnius yesterday. It was the first plenum after the 19th all-union party conference which took place earlier this summer, and the influence of the conference on the style of this plenum was obvious. Already, the speech made by First Secretary of the Central Committee Ringaudas Songayla disclosed the big problems that party organizations are now confronted with. The task to step up the activity of primary party organizations and enhance their role was put forward. It must be noted, however, that features inherited from the stagnation period are still commonplace in primary party organizations. These are formalism, exaggerated organization, the habit to wait for directions from above, unwillingness to show initiative and to act on their own, avoiding controversial issues of the collective's everyday life.

In the speech, party committees of several districts and their secretaries were subjected to severe criticism. It was also pointed out with self-criticism that at this very important period, the activity of the leading political bodies and Central Committee Bureau was not free from shortcomings either. The responsibility for this lies first of all with me as first secretary, Ringaudas Songayla said. But there are serious shortcomings in the work of other Central Committee secretaries and bureau members too. We need a real collegiality based on frank opinions, free discussion, and collective search for solutions, the first secretary said.

It's natural that in his speech some space was devoted also to the nonformal democratic movement—the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka—all the more so that on the movement's initiative the Central Committee building was being picketed while the plenum took place.

Lithuania's 'Economic Sovereignty' Assessed

LD0710211188 Vilnius in English to North America 2300 GMT 5 Oct 88

[Text] We've discussed Lithuania's economic sovereignty on several occasions and you may have heard the opinions of various scientists and other specialists. This time, we invite you to listen to a commentary by economist Algimantas Jablonskis.

[Jablonskis in Lithuanian with superimposed English translation] This question of Lithuania's economic restructuring is in the focus of attention today. To prevent the existence of the so-called spongers—which include the Soviet Baltic republics, fairly highly developed states—the scientists propose to switch them over to cost accounting. This reform was expected to make it quite clear who is a sponger and who is not. But soon it turned out that to do so it was absolutely necessary to take into account the local value in economy, to create realistic systems of price-making and prices, and to properly assess the costs and results of production. And besides, it hardly makes any sense to talk about cost accounting before the republic begins to enjoy economic independence. For this reason, the term economic management on a cost-accounting basis no longer reflects the essence of the issue under discussion and has been replaced by the term "economic sovereignty."

So Lithuania's economic sovereignty is in the center of attention and the chief object of discussion, not only here in Lithuania and in the whole of the Soviet Union, but also abroad. As for the statements about Lithuania's economy carried by foreign press, they are often very original and unexpectedly objective assessments of our economic position. In some cases the criticism of our economy proves to be right and just. [passage indistinct] The unduly high degree of centralization and the restriction of Lithuania's economic independence are criticized too, and that is fair.

Really, the administrative and bureaucratic economic management in the years following the Second World War had the effect of slowing down Lithuania's economic development. It created a shortage of goods. As the administrative economic management methods weren't gaining force, the role of initiative of constituent republics slackened and lost their significance altogether. The broad public had no say in the solution of economic problems. As a result a kind of one-story all-union economic system emerged—the national economy of the Soviet Union—whereas the economies of the union republics were playing a kind of secondary role. Now the situation is changing drastically. The economy of each single economic region and union republic is calling for all-round development so that they may essentially increase their contribution to the common economy of the Soviet Union.

The economy growth of union republics is a natural economic process, but the economic effect is enhanced by the national factors. The public and the government of Lithuania are actively discussing the proposals for the expansion of the republic's rights in the spheres of management, planning, finance, and labor. There is a suggestion that all the industrial enterprises of Lithuania and the corresponding scientific research institutes become subject to the Lithuanian Council of Ministers as well as the construction and technological organizations on the Lithuanian territory should be made of Lithuanian subordination. This would enable Lithuania to increase production and improve its quality.

It is proposed that the agro-industrial complex of Lithuania should be made subordinate to the Lithuanian Council of Ministers and that it be vested with the right to conduct an independent agrarian policy. It was also proposed to make changes in the instructions regulating the distribution of meat and milk in the Soviet Union. This would enhance the role of the local bias in expanding food production and satisfying the citizens' needs for food. In the sphere of capital construction, a proposal was made to grant the Lithuanian Council of Ministers the power to independently handle the investment matters. The construction of objects of all-union subordination must be considered together with the Lithuanian Government.

The proposals also reflect the relation of the Lithuanian budget with the all-union budget. The republic's financial needs should be satisfied from the republic's income funds, whereas the mutual relations with the all-union budget should be regulated through fixed deductions from the incomes of the Lithuanian budget.

The Lithuanian public and the government are also tackling the important problems, including Lithuania's international economic relations. These are but first steps leading to Lithuania's economic independence.

Election 'Falsification' in Armenia Reported

NC1110123588 Yerevan Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] A report was published on the extraordinary plenum of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee held on 10 October. The plenum examined the resolution of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau on the falsification of elections to the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR from the Number 111 Narekatsi Electoral Okrug on the part of certain members of the credentials commission of the Armenian Supreme Soviet. The improper behavior of Mandalyan and Galumyan, members of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, was also examined.

This was dealt with in detail at the session of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. It was noted that on 8 October an attempt had been made to hold a session of the credentials commission, which was attended by only six of the 14 members. Moreover, the presence of outsiders had been allowed. [Words indistinct] as illegally recognized as having been elected deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR. CPSU member Mandalyan had deliberately permitted a political provocation, which, in the situation that has been created, aggravated the state of affairs even further. Galumyan, CPSU member and deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, displayed political shortsightedness and unscrupulousness, and thereby contributed to the drafting of an unlawful and provocative document.

The plenum fully and as a whole endorsed the resolution of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee on the issue, and unanimously expelled Mandalyan from the ranks of the CPSU. Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, made a speech at the plenum. It was emphasized that the organizers of the disorder are [words indistinct] resorting to blackmail and threats. The plenum considers it impermissible that in the situation created certain party, soviet, and economic workers, teachers at educational institutions, and representatives of the scientific and creative intelligentsia are not adopting principled party positions, are not (?rejecting) irresponsible rumors that [words indistinct]. Party committees are not making the appropriate assessments of these factors. The plenum has demanded that party, soviet, economic, and law enforcement organs utilize in every way the rights granted to them to bring about the necessary order, eliminate unlawful activities, and secure legality.

'Provocation' Detailed

LD1110183588 Moscow TASS in English 1811 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Yerevan October 11 TASS—A plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia held on Monday dealt with a case of election rigging in one of the constituencies of this Transcaucasian republic during balloting to the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of Armenia.

A TASS correspondent was told that an attempt to hold a meeting of the credentials committee of the Supreme Soviet, purportedly for verifying the results of balloting to the Supreme Soviet of Armenia in the Narekatsi constituency, number 111 of Yerevan, was held on October 8 on the initiative of Vice-President of the Presidium of Armenia's Supreme Soviet V. Galumyan. Six out of the 14 members of the committee were present at the meeting, besides them, a group of persons having nothing to do with the committee were admitted to the meeting. Members of the commitee fabricated a protocol of the meeting of the credentials committee, a protocol that is not valid. In violation of the law of election to the republic's Supreme Soviet, the protocol proclaimed to have been elected as deputy to the Supreme Soviet H. Stamboltsyan who had not been registered and who had not received the majority of ballots of all the voters of the district. The protocol was signed by Chairman of the credentials committee Mandalyan and was turned over by him to members of the so-called "Karabakh" committee and was read out in his presence in the theatre square in Yerevan.

The Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia discussed this cases and qualified Mandalyan's actions as a political provocation which in the existing conditions aggravated the situation still more and whipped up passions and emotions further. It was noted that Vice-President of the Presidium of the

Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic V. Galumyan manifested political short-sightedness, unscrupulousness and thus promoted the concoction of an unlawful, provocative document.

The Bureau of the Central Committee expelled Mandalyan from the CPSU for adopting an unlawful document distorting the results of the elections. This decision has been unanimously supported by the plenum of the Communist Party of the republic. For not taking measures to prevent the fabrication of an unlawful, provocative document and for manifesting political short-sightedness, V. Galumyan was strictly reprimanded, with the reprimand being entered in his registration card.

Further on Plenum, 'Rigging'

PM1210095388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 88 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Yerevan—An Armenian Communist Party Central Committee plenum was held on 10 October. The heads of Central Committee departments and the first secretaries of party gorkoms and raykoms who are not also members of the Central Committee or the auditing commission were invited to it.

The plenum discussed the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau resolution "On the Rigging of the Results of the Elections to the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet in No 111 Narekatsi Electoral Okrug by Members of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Credentials Commission and the Irregular Conduct of Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Members Kh.L. Mandalyan and V.B. Galumyan."

The plenum approved the bureau resolution and unanimously decided to expel Kh.L. Mandalyan from the CPSU for approving and signing an unlawful document on behalf of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Credentials Commission, thereby distorting the real results of an election, which constituted a political provocation and led to a worsening of the situation in the republic.

The plenum was addressed by S.G. Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee. There followed an intense, principled discussion in connection with the tense situation in the republic. It was emphasized that some people are making appeals that are frequently politically damaging and have nothing in common with the real interests of the people or problems in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast. The fact that some groups of people are inciting others to unlawful actions and doing their utmost to destabilize the situation in the republic, discredit party, soviet, and economic cadres, and drive a wedge between the working people and the leadership of the republic is a source of concern. In this respect the organizers of the riots do not balk at spreading shameful lies and provocative rumors, circulate conjectures they know to be false, and resort to threats and blackmail.

The plenum emphasized particularly strongly that assertions by some that a gulf has formed between the republic leadership and the people have absolutely no foundation and constitute malicious slander.

The plenum demanded that party, soviet, economic, and law enforcement organs make maximum use of their rights to instill proper order, quash unlawful actions, and guarantee the rule of law.

Further on Nagorno-Karabakh Ethnic Unrest

'Sense of Fear' Cited

PM1110145588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 88 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondent Lieutenant Colonel N. Burbyga report: "Refugees"]

[Text] Agdam, Stepanakert—The journey from Agdam to Stepanakert takes just a few minutes. Along the road there are mountains, streams running in gorges, verdure which has lost none of its freshness, and flocks of sheep all along the way—all these pictures are absolutely fascinating. Were it not for the patrols of security forces [sily podderzhaniya poryadka], and the mounds of cobblestones at the entrance to the Armenian and Azerbaijani settlements, you might think that life here was peaceful and serene.

But people's hearts are troubled. The events which have been troubling every Soviet person, causing pain, and raising a host of questions are still fresh in the memory. How deep must the mutual hostility have been for people to take up rocks, sticks, and hunting rifles? And how far could those irresponsible people have gone who, in the hope of hanging onto their jobs or the source of their illicit wealth, initially drove the ailment below the surface and are now trying to exploit it in the interests of their clans. Large-scale disorders took place in Khodzhaly village. From there they spread to Stepanakert, Shusha, and Martuni. Many people lost their homes and were forced to leave their native cities.

Refugees from Stepanakert found shelter in wooden huts on the territory of Agdam hospital, which I visited. I talked with 57-year-old S. Mamedova, who could not hold back the tears. "All I had left was what what I had on me—slippers and a dress," she said.

Her neighbors, like her, had all their possessions burned. Adela Gambarova has three sons. They started school recently. Her husband doesn't work now. And even though both families have been given financial assistance, it is small consolation.

...We drove into Stepanakert. The empty city streets are a sorry sight. Most enterprises have been closed for many days now. We reached the "Karabakh" hotel. It is full of refugees.

"Thank God it is all over," said Elmira Osepyan. "We can sleep peacefully now...."

Like many other refugees the Osepyan family were brought out of Shusha by servicemen belonging to the security forces [voyny obespechivayushchiye poryadok]. Listening to her pitiful story I couldn't help comparing it with what I had heard the day before in Agdam. My interlocutors spoke of the same things. The same concerns worried them. And everyone asked the same question: What is to become of us?

It cannot be said that due attention isn't being paid to the refugee problem in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast. Recently it was decided that all the apartment blocks which had been damaged would be restored. The means have been found for that, the materials allocated, and the teams of workers who will rebuild them appointed. However, there has been an unpardonable delay on this question, which is important to many people. For example, the freightcars full of construction materials have been standing unloaded at the railroad station for many days now. And winter is not far off.

Many people are saying that everyone is tired of the feuding. Many are saying: Is it really impossible to resolve questions without strikes? Meanwhile, the strikes go on.

There is another problem that, as many here believe, is more important than the housing problem. There is a sense of fear. Each day dozens of people put various questions to the security forces [sily podderzhaniya poryadka] and the military sector commanders. Most often they are requests to ensure safety. At this time of year the agricultural work is usually at its peak in Armenia's fields, but nowadays people are wary of going out into the fields. The flocks of sheep belonging to Azerbaijani farms are being brought down from the mountains now. Their route runs across Armenian fields. Those driving the flocks are afraid of incidents. At the moment their safety is being guaranteed by the security forces.

"What is going to happen next, what will become of us?" Those questions worry many people nowadays. And many refugees still do not want to go back to their homes.

"How long will I go on being afraid and refusing to meet with my Armenian friend?" Dzhalal Shironov, a Great Patriotic War veteran and shepherd at the "Birmay" Sovkhoz, said to me. "What has happened is appalling. But we must find within us the strength to forget our grudges and regard ourselves in a new and sober light."

That is what many working people in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and Agdamskiy Rayon think.

Nevertheless, I cannot end my account on an optimistic note. The two volcanoes of seething passion—one in Agdam, the other in Stepanakert—have not grown cold yet.

Vezirov, Arutyunyan Meet

LD1110122588 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Text] Stepanakert October 11 TASS—The first secretaries of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of Azerbaijan and Armenia, Abdul-Rahman Vezirov and Suren Arutyunyan, had a regular meeting in Stepanakert today.

They heard a report by Genrikh Pogosyan, first secretary of the Nagorno-Karabakh region party committee, on the situation in the autonomous region.

The leaders of the two republics exchanged information on the state of affairs and the tasks being tackled by the party organizations and working people of Armenia and Azerbaijan for overcoming stagnation in the economy and the social sphere and improving the ideological and moral atmosphere.

Special attention was paid to reviewing the progress of work to fulfil the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers concerning Nagorno-Karabakh.

It was noted that ministries, agencies and economic organizations are still being impeded by a lack of coordinated action and of agreed decisions. Stress was made on the importance of all that work so that, guided by the decisions of the 19th party conference, to make certain that the program that has been drawn up will be fulfilled without fail. [sentence as received]

It was pointed out that in the existing situation it is extremely essential to look for compromise ways to solve problems and meet each other halfway proceeding from the interests of all the working people of the autonomous region and the country as a whole.

Note was taken in the course of the meeting of the need to make party organizations more vigorous and active in averting interethnic conflicts. It was stressed that it is important and useful to ensure real safety guarantees to the population, regardless of their nationalities.

The participants in the meeting arrived at the unanimous conclusion that the overriding need now is to overcome estrangement between the two peoples and adopt measures to stabilize the situation in the region as soon as possible.

The problems of Nagorno-Karabakh can only be solved in a calm atmosphere, by demonstrating a flexible and balanced approach, making reasonable compromises and ensuring all the factors facilitating their resolution.

Much attention was paid to measures to solve the problem of migrants from both nations.

Agreement was reached on further meetings between representatives of the leaderships of Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Arkadiy Volskiy, a representative of the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, took part in the meeting.

Activities, Interviews Reported

LD1110223488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 11 Oct 88

[Interview with Suren Gurgenovich Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of Armenia, and Abdul-Rakhman Khalil Vezirov, first secretary of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, by correspondent Sergey Omelchenko in Stepanakert on 11 October—recorded]

[Text] Suren Gurgenovich Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of Armenia, and Abdul-Rakhman Khalil Vezirov, first secretary of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, arrived today in Stepankert. They met Arkadiy Ivanovich Volskiy, representative of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Genrikh Andreyevich Pogosyan, first secretary of the Nagorno-Karabakh Obkom. Topical problems of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] were discussed. Comrade Arutyunyan met collectives from the condenser works in Stepankert and the Nurgayukh Kolkhoz of Akseranskiy Rayon. Comrade Vezirov was in the town of Shusha. At the airport before leaving Stepanakert, Comrades Arutyunyan and Vezirov gave an interview to our special correspondent Sergey Omelchenko.

[Begin recording] [Omelchenko] Your impressions about the meeting here? It is your second or third meeting on Karabakh territory....

[Arutyunyan] You know, such meetings are necessary. We need to meet on a regular basis, to exchange information, to act in a coordinated fashion, because the situation frequently changes and demands joint action, joint measures to normalize and stabilize the situation. This meeting was also useful. We exchanged information about the state of affairs in Azerbaijan, in Armenia, in Nagorno-Karabakh. We discussed a range of basic questions connected with, let's say, the participation of our republic in solving the economic and social problems of NKAO. We have many labor collectives that are showing initiative in this connection, putting forward practical proposals. We have just systematized all of this. We have a clearly defined plan of action to give specific help to the NKAO. What shall I say to you? In Armenia the situation remains complicated and tense. We are taking measures to stabilize and normalize the situation, but the question of the necessity of trying to resolve the question of the NKAO is under very active discussion. People are now obsessed by this idea. We are carrying out the appropriate work of explaining. Here we still have much to do, but the problem itself is still one of people's perception.

Today, here in Stepanakert, I had some very interesting, dynamic meetings at the condenser works. You were there too, you heard this. You know people are very disturbed, people are tired, but at the same time they still hope for solutions. They are waiting for solutions concerning the NKAO. I see the most important thing is that people have gone to work. People are in the mood for work. Today at this enterprise almost everyone was at his work place. Today I was at the Nuragyukh Kolkhoz. I also met agricultural workers. I was asked the question which cannot be answered: When will the question of the NKAO be solved? The most important thing, which we cannot give our attention to, is that people are infected by this idea, obsessed by it. And here of course there is still a great deal of work ahead in search of ways to get out of this dead-end political situation in which we find ourselves here in this region. This is what I wanted to say for now.

[Omelchenko] Suren Gurgenovich, during the meeting there was an interesting proposal, to hold a television bridge program between Moscow, Yerevan, Baku, and Stepanakert.

[Arutyunyan] This proposal was made. At the condenser works they raised that question. I think that this suggestion is worthy of attention in the future. I would not throw out this idea; it should be given some thought since a television bridge might remove a whole series of questions that arise because people are not sufficiently informed about many questions connected with the NKAO.

[Omelchenko] Thank you.

[Arutyunyan] All the best to you.

[Omelchenko] Abdul-Rakhman Khalil ogly, your impressions on the particular features of this meeting?

[Vezirov] This is my second meeting and visit to the land of Karabakh, but you understand that we have had very many meetings in Moscow, Idzhevan, and Kazakh. We have been in daily contact by phone. We inform each other about developments in the situation, about our plans, and we coordinate them. Today, in my opinion, we had a very fruitful, constructive conversation, with regard to how our efforts and the potential of our two republics should be coordinated and best used to carry

out the well-known decision of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers with regard to Nagorno-Karabakh. Indeed, quite a lot has been done, but I consider that we could do even more. So we discussed the ways in which our organizations, ministries, and departments should work. We have established a reasonably good program for joint action in this direction. The second question is concerned with those people who have resettled.

[Omelchenko] A very complicated question.

[Vezirov] A complicated question; it causes us a great deal of bother and it is understandable why it is complicated. It is an emotional question; it concerns the destiny of people who have undergone a catastrophe not of their own making. We must do everything to ease the situation for the people who have moved away first of all and to help solve the many problems of living conditions and other problems that have arisen for them. Third [as heard], and I think this is most important, we must take the trouble to see that a situation does not arise where people are forced to leave their familiar surroundings and move away to other places. We have reached agreements both on how to create such guarantees both in Armenia and in Azerbaijan and everywhere, so that people do not need to leave and people are not placed in a situation where they are forced to leave familiar surroundings. We are making every effort and we will make every effort so that social justice and the Leninist norms of party life reign supreme everywhere in our land.

[Omelchenko] Abdul-Rakhman Khalil ogly, what is your personal attitude toward the tragedy of the two peoples, the Azerbaijanis and Armenians, not understanding each other here in Nagorno-Karabakh?

[Vezirov] You used the word tragedy correctly. And because it is a tragedy we must leave nothing undone to remove the effects of this disaster. We spoke about this at the 19th all-union party conference. We spoke about this at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session on 18 July. We must do everything and we will do everything so that a breakdown does not occur, because our peoples have been united and always will be united. [end recording]

Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet To Meet in November

NC1210080188 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1700 GMT 10 Oct 88

[Text] The Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decided to hold the 8th session of the 11th convocation of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet in Baku in November 1988. The following are expected to be debated by the session:

1. The state plan for the Azerbaijan SSR's economic and social development in 1989 and the way the state plan for the Azerbaijan SSR's economic and social development in 1988 is being realized;

2. The Azerbaijan SSR's state budget for 1989 and the way the Azerbaijan SSR's state plan for 1988 is being realized;

3. And the approval of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium's decrees.

Readers Ask Questions on 30 Sep Plenum

PM1110130788 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 11 Oct 88 p 1

[Article by N. Dashkevich, deputy editor for the Letters Department: "The Week's Mailbag"]

[Excerpt] SOVETSKAYA KULTURA received 3,483 letters in September. Some 850 of them were in response to material published in the newspaper.

The recent main events—the 30 September CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the extraordinary USSR Supreme Soviet session—brought a plentiful response in the editorial office mailbag. Some of the letters raise questions. Readers would like to know why it was that the session agenda was not published by the mass media in good time? Why were there only sole rather than dual or triple candidacies? Why was the vote totally unanimous?

What can be said to that? Surely, "non-unanimity" should not become a mandatory ritual?

"Here is my opinion. A great burden has been placed on Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev," according to A. Dubrovin from the city of Brovary, Kiev Oblast. "After all, now he will have to attend a sharply increased number of receptions for various delegations and will have to deal with many more questions requiring examination, as well as all sorts of sessions and conferences along Supreme Soviet lines. It is to be wished that this will not reduce the frequency of his meetings with ordinary people and his visits to enterprises and collectives...." [passage omitted]

Figures for Jewish Emigration Released

AU0710130388 Paris AFP in English 1254 GMT 7 Oct 88

[Text] Geneva, Oct 7 (AFP)—The Soviet Union allowed 2,295 Jews to emigrate in September, the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration said here Friday.

Of the total, 108 opted to settle in Israel and most of the others chose the United States.

So far this year, 11,815 Jews have left the Soviet Union, the ICM said.

Moscow To Commemorate Stalin Reprisal Victims
LD0910133888 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 9 Oct 88

[Text] A week commemorating the victims of the Stalin reprisals will be observed in Moscow next month. During the public-sponsored campaign, projects and mock-ups of a future memorial will be displayed at one of the capital's social centers. Among the authors of the projects are architects and artists, both professionals and amateurs.

Besides, films about the tragic events of that period will be shown and songs written in Stalin's prisons and camps performed. All the cash returns of the week's events will be contributed to the construction of a memorial to the victims of the Stalin reprisals.

Shmelev Defends Academics' Role Under Brezhnev
PM0910183388 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 39 26 Sep-2 Oct 88 (Signed to Press 28 Sep 88) pp 20-21

[Interview with Doctor of Economic Sciences Nikolay Shmelev by Vladimir Voyna under the rubric "Private Conversation": "When Hope Appeared..."—date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Nikolay Shmelev is widely known today. His articles on economic problems are being debated by people at home and at work and his name is mentioned in high levels. Today the sober, merciless presentation of truths is vying in popularity with adventure stories! Incidentally, the author himself has no ambitions to become a proclaimer of ultimate truths. N. Shmelev, like a number of our other economists who have now gained popularity, is able to write and speak simply and intelligibly, is able to reach people. Thanks to their work the prestige of economic science has risen appreciably. Who would dare to say that it is "boring stuff"! No, it seems that there is nothing that concerns us more, that there is nothing more interesting, nothing that fills us more with a passionate desire to do something, to change the course of events....

But does everyone know that Professor Shmelev, a doctor of economic sciences, and the author of the currently widely read story "The Pashkov House" [Pashkov Dom], the writer Shmelev, are one and the same person? A scientist, a writer on current affairs, and a literary man. A rare combination. The interview which he gave to NEDELYA was not an ordinary one either. It is essentially a private conversation, and the familiar form of address is being used since the interviewer is journalist Vladimir Voyna, a close friend of Shmelev's from student days. The dictaphone is running. [passage omitted]

[Voyna] How did you come to write the article about "advances and debts" in NOVYY MIR?

[Shmelev] It was not by design. Prior to that I had probably written thousands of pages marked "for official use" and given many lectures, but always to "closed" audiences. And always and everywhere I had said the same thing. Alas, it usually ended up in the safes of my superiors! Sometimes they read it, sometimes it went straight into the basket.... I have devoted my whole life to science and what is the practical result? What have I, personally, contributed to the development of international economic ties? I dare to hope that I have at least one thing: When at the beginning of the seventies we embarked on negotiations between CEMA and EEC countries, I played my part. And that is all!

For decades what we wrote about was regarded as the ravings of crazy professors. I would have never come forward with an article in the mass circulation press if it had not been for one good man (this always happens in Russia) who asked me: "Why don't you put all your thoughts about our economy on paper?" And I thought to myself: Why not beat the internal censor and pour out everything that has built up, everything that we have discussed among professionals? (It had nonetheless caused some ripples: Hence the proposal to formulate my views.) I would not have taken this step of my own accord; I was persuaded. I did not expect the storm that it caused.

[Voyna] At the time you asked me: "What have I done that is so special? I merely generalized what had been said by others and put it in the right order...."

[Shmelev] Quite. As a professional I can only lay claim to a couple of details intelligible only to other professionals—I mean the points which I was the first to make. The rest...after all, economists have been discussing this for the past 20-30 years.

[Voyna] It is true that society did not know what the economists knew. And the experts' very role was underestimated....

[Shmelev] This is precisely what was discussed at the 19th party conference. I was glad to attend it as a guest. I regarded it as a key event in our lives. However, I was stung by the reproach that science had not helped the country, that it was chronically lagging.... But who wanted to know the truth about the economy? Who wanted to listen to us?

Among professionals the idea of creating a new economic mechanism was discussed for 2 or 3 decades. There was an attempt to introduce it back in 1965. Are the scientists to blame because the effort was nipped in the bud? Now people tell us: "You did not draw our attention to it." But who wanted to listen? No, as I remember it, we were told something quite different: "Advise us how to change everything so that nothing gets changed." So that the position of the people in question did not suffer in any way as a result of the scientists' recommendations.

Allow me to recall the absurd venture with the law on unearned income: What self-respecting professional could have proposed something like that?! Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, addressing the party conference, was right when he said: The Ministry of Finance is trying to pin this whole taxes caper on the cooperatives, contrary to all the scientists' recommendations. It is no accident that this law has been "put on ice" for the second time. What economist in possession of his right mind and a sound memory could advise anything like that? Let those who are still clinging to pig-iron positions bear responsibility for this. Or take, for instance, responsibility for some international aspects of our policy. The scientists were opposed to the deployment of SS-20 missiles, they warned (at the institute where I was working at the time, they even dispatched letters to "the top" to this effect) that this step would have unpredictable consequences. Or the introduction of our forces into Afghanistan. It was also undertaken without consulting the scientists. And never mind the scientists, not even all the members of the Politburo knew about it....

[Voyna] Again, at the party conference, there was a lot of talk about the economy.

[Shmelev] ...And it was not always correct as far as science is concerned. The role of the commodity-money levers is causing doubts? So what can be proposed instead? What can they be replaced with? The camp system—and only the camp system! However, as we were able to see for ourselves, that did not work either. Yet we have never gotten to hear an answer to the question asked by one of the delegates: Can we go on claiming that the market and commodity-money relations are "an act of subversion on the part of the West" directed against us? Ideology has nothing to do with this: It is like a law of physics. Try and abolish the Boyle-Mariotte law! The market is irreplaceable, nothing else has yet been invented, its high effectiveness is proven, and I agree with Academician Leonid Abalkin that "restructured socialism" must draw on the valuable experience accumulated in the course of history, including the use of commodity-money levers—this is an inalienable part of all sensible, rational economic management, simply another term for such concepts as thorough social division of labor and production specialization. I also agree that guidelines for the 12th 5-Year Plan have to be reviewed, since they were "compiled" with completely different conditions in mind.

[Voyna] We have already had to pay dearly for the current policy—switching the economy to the new management mechanism, while planning was geared to the old mechanism. Does this mean that even in the 13th 5-Year Plan we will be tripping over the same obstacles while talking about economic accountability?

[Shmelev] Yes, unless we learn to think in economic terms. What amazes me is that everyone recognizes the laws of physics, but the laws of economics.... No blockhead would climb into a nuclear reactor with a crowbar, after all: It is obvious how that would end. The economy, on the other hand.... Yet the effect is the same as at Chernobyl, the only difference being that it is spread out in time and space. But as to its degree of harmfulness, it is the same. In general I discerned in the attacks on scientists purely personal, totally unfounded antipathies. How can you describe Academician Georgiy Arbatov as the "architect of stagnation"?! I categorically reject this reproach. It is true that he is my director, but you know that given my "level of independence," prefessionally speaking, I can permit myself the luxury of being objective. But what does the obkom secretary who spoke against him at the conference know about him? Does he know, for instance, that in 1969 L.I. Brezhnev could have fully rehabilitated Stalin? Yes, yes, a speech precisely on those lines had been prepared by Brezhnev's aides for the 90th anniversary of Stalin's birth, in order to bring back the cult of "our beloved father." G.A. Arbatov was among those who opposed this most resolutely. This was by no means his only service to the struggle against negative tendencies.... And what about his role in consolidating the policy of "detente?" After all, there was a wonderful period; it was only a pity that it all collapsed subsequently. Even in the past many good words were said about both policy and the economy at top party forums; scientists played a very active part in the compilation of congress documents in which progressive ideas were included (for instance, about wholesale trade in the means of production), but what did it all come to? How is it possible to blame scientists who put forward these ideas for the fact that these ideas were not implemented? Was it perhaps they who made the decisions? Furthermore, in America there are more than 100 institutes along the lines of our United States and Canada Institute (I mean institutes for the study of the USSR) and we have only one, plus two or three small teams at other scientific centers, and a few experts at universities. This scientific center created by Arbatov has proved its effectiveness, but it is necessary to learn to listen to scientists' recommendations and take them into account.

[Voyna] President Reagan invited you to a reception held at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. What is your view of him since you had the opportunity to talk to him personally at this dinner?

[Shmelev] It seems to me that I almost unraveled the "secret" of his personality. His style, his way of fostering his political career. He is surrounded by highly qualified people, including economists, but as a politician he skillfully uses what his rich life, including his life as an actor, has taught him. It is not important to what extent this comes from the heart and to what extent from the mind, but he has worked out a fine technique of communicating with people, of addressing Joe Public, regardless of whether he is addressing him directly or through the medium of the TV screen. He speaks to you directly even if you do not understand the workings of the world, even if you are not versed in politics. After all, everyone has his view of life.

Reagan has developed this into a fine art, and it is how he wins people over. And another thing: What I liked, of course, were those "sounds of bonhomie" which we are not very used to, sincere sounds, moreover, which rang out across that dinner table and which were in general prepossessing. After all, none of us had forgotten that it was this politician who had said that we were the main "source of evil...." And now he was displaying the utmost friendliness toward our leadership, letting it be known that he believed that we have a new aim, new tasks of national revival, that our changes are not cosmetic but serious, that what is happening in our country is something that will have a tremendous impact on the fate of the world, and that serious people have taken over the leadership in our country. And it was no accident that the president said during his visit that he regards our country as potentially friendly, as a partner in talks, and not as an enemy.

[Voyna] Can you remember what you talked about over dinner? In the "off the record" category....

I recall a "one-on-one" conversation with the president. I asked him: "Mr President, what is happening to America under your rule? People have stopped using salt and sugar, they do not smoke and they do not drink—statistics show that alcohol consumption has decreased appreciably—so what is coming next, what other pleasures are you going to give up? Is it going to be...." "No," the president replied, "we have not set ourselves the goal which you have in mind. But as for smoking, it needs to be taken seriously!" I agree with him, of course....

Pustogarov on Economic, Leadership Moves

AU0710092388 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1700 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Interview with Vladimir Pustogarov, deputy director of the Moscow State and Law Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by Armin Wolf; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Wolf] Professor, the new Central Committee secretary responsible for ideological problems, Medvedev, delivered a noteworthy speech yesterday. For instance, he spoke about a new concept of socialism, and stated that the law of supply and demand is an essential requirement for efficient economic management. He also said that common human values should have precedence over class interests. Do you in your State and Law Institute have to rewrite the textbooks now?

[Pustogarov] To begin with, we do not write textbooks. We help write them. The books are written by university professors. However, we must at any rate change our way of thinking, in the direction indicated by Comrade Medvedev.

[Wolf] How much market economy is possible in the Soviet Union, do you think?

[Pustogarov] We do not have private ownership of production means. That will remain so. That also includes the fact that we nationalized the land. That will remain so as well. Under such conditions, the laws of the market are supposed to have an effect.

[Wolf] There have been major changes in the Politburo and the Central Committee as well as in the state leadership over the weekend. What has Mikhail Gorbachev achieved for restructuring by this?

[Pustogarov] I personally consider this an acceleration of the process. Comrade Gorbachev said that we have talked enough, and we have carried out good preparatory ideological work. Now we want to see deeds, and we must translate all these concepts into deeds. I view this as the beginning of this process.

[Wolf] Many commentators in the West have said that this reshuffling was carried out in the old style. They say that only unanimous decisions were made, and state president Gromyko possibly did not go entirely voluntarily. So the method has not changed substantially, and restructuring and democracy were not so much in evidence, they say.

[Pustogarov] I would say that they look at the form, not at the substance. Regarding the substance, I would not count Gromyko among the opponents of restructuring or Gorbachev. You should also consider that he is well over 70 years old. If you meet him personally, you will see that he is quite old. That has to be taken into account. Regarding the form, one cannot create something artificial; for instance, one cannot nominate another candidate besides Gorbachev. In our situation, this would look artificial.

[Wolf] Could it be that there will eventually be several candidates for the office of state president in the Soviet Union?

[Pustogarov] Absolutely. I think that will absolutely be the case. However, we must adjust to realities. That is not only the case in our country; it also is the case in many other countries. Sometimes there is a situation in which there are several, and I would say equally qualified candidates. Sometimes there is a situation in which a candidate is (?unbeatable). We have a situation now in which Gorbachev is the most popular and respected leader of the party and the entire Soviet Union. That is an undisputed fact.

[Wolf] Could you conceive of a time horizon, and say that in the year 2000 it would perhaps be possible that there would be two candidates?

[Pustogarov] Basically, I would say yes.

[Wolf] How about other parties? Is a multiparty system conceivable in the Soviet Union in the foreseeable future?

[Pustogarov] If you use the term "foreseeable future," I would say no. Why? Because there is no real reason, or no real basis. Several attempts have been made in our country to found such parties. Let me give you an example. As you know, a democratic front was founded in Estonia. In the scope of this front—which is a broad movement and does not have registered members and membership fees, I believe—there were some groups or currents which intended to change this front into a sort of political party. However, the majority has asserted itself, and this majority does not see any real basis for this, primarily because the democratic front is unable to propose a program that could compete with the CPSU's program.

[Wolf] But would a multiparty system or a new party be conceivable eventually?

[Pustogarov] Well, if the time comes when this will be needed, and if the situation justifies it, that could be possible. Socialist theory does not contain the thesis that socialism is a one-party system.

[Wolf] Currently a great discussion is going on about problems related to Nagorno-Karabakh. The discussion is about Armenia leaving the USSR. Do you, as a specialist in international law, consider this conceivable? It would be compatible with the Constitution.

[Pustogarov] Yes. Why refer to international law? If the Constitution permits it, this republic has the right to do so.

[Wolf] Do you consider it probable?

[Pustogarov] I do not consider it probable, because according to Western standards, you should think of the silent majority. We will see after some time that these very active and noisy groups do not represent the majority of the people.

[Wolf] The development of restructuring is currently being criticized. Such criticism is expressed in readers' letters to the government newspaper IZVESTIYA. People say that the only thing they see at present is that they have to work more, but do not get more. Is such criticism justified?

[Pustogarov] If they mean glasnost, in other words, freedom of the press, freedom of opinion, freedom of demonstration—political freedoms and the whole social atmosphere—all this has basically changed. We have achieved this, and that is a great thing. But if they mean economic successes, in other words, goods that are not in short supply, and no lines in front of shops, I do not think that you can promise to improve the situation in a very short time, because economic changes cannot be implemented very quickly. In some areas production has doubled, in other areas goods production has decreased, and so forth.

[Wolf] The well-known historian Yuriy Afanasyev has expressed the concern that restructuring—the third great attempt after Lenin and Khrushchev to restructure Soviet society—could fail again, which would jeopardize the entire system and society. Do you, too, fear that restructuring will fail?

[Pustogarov] No. I am optimistic in this respect, and I would like to justify it. From my own experience I know of two attempts to reform the economy, which were made under Khrushchev and under Kosygin. These attempts were not particularly successful and, if you like, you could say that they failed. Why? I think that first, these attempts were not ideologically propagated. They came from above, and the masses had no idea what the reform was and what it would bring them. Second, these attempts consisted of the reorganization of the state or economic apparatus on a higher level. Khrushchev wanted the ministries to be changed into economic councils. That is too abstract for the workers and peasants, for the broad masses. Why should a worker care whether there is a ministry or an economic council? Now restructuring starts at the workplace. Restructuring concerns almost everybody. That changes things basically. I think that if this far-reaching democratization continues, and if the broad masses of the population are included, this is a guarantee of success.

[Wolf] Do you not fear that Gorbachev could fail because of obstacles in the apparatus, in bureaucracy, and possibly also because of political opponents? There still are some conservative, and perhaps even very conservative, forces in the Central Committee. Do you not fear that Gorbachev could fail, just like Khrushchev?

[Pustogarov] As I said, I am an optimist, and I gave my reasons for this. Regarding opposition, of course it exists, because these are no cosmetic corrections, but basic reforms. Gorbachev coined the phrase of revolutionary changes. That does not mean violence, civil war, bloodshed, or shooting—things we usually associate with a revolution—but a qualitatively new stage of society, and in this sense it is revolutionary. The point at issue is the distribution of property, the issue of cadres, the streamlining of the apparatus. [words indistinct] These issues have produced opposition. But I am sure that all these problems can be solved in a peaceful framework—in the framework of political discussions.

[Wolf] In the context of this opposition, how do you judge the role of Yegor Ligachev, the former party ideologist and present Central Committee secretary for agricultural affairs?

[Pustogarov] I cannot claim that I know Comrade Ligachev personally. I am far away from the Politburo. However, as for the opinion that, in a way, he was fired, let me say this: As you know, the supply problem is the most burning issue in our country. Gorbachev also said and stressed that repeatedly. This problem must be solved first of all. It is very closely connected with

agriculture. I would say that our hopes for a rapid growth of goods production and services are staked on agriculture. For Comrade Ligachev to be assigned to this area does not mean that he has been sidetracked.

[Wolf] Some commentators say that it is not a sidetrack, but rather an ejection seat, and Gorbachev could use it to get rid of Ligachev, on the pretext that he did not achieve anything substantial. Do you not see it this way?

[Pustogarov] I see what you mean, and I also read these commentaries. But I think that we must take Comrade Gorbachev seriously as a politician and statesman, in particular in the present very precarious situation, and should not impute that he wants to get rid of a politician through intrigue.

[Wolf] You have been a diplomat for many years, are now a specialist in international law, and are dealing intensively with international relations. As a specialist in international law, how do you judge Austria's efforts to join the European Community? Do you think that it is compatible with Austria's neutrality?

[Pustogarov] Generally speaking, I would say no, because the State Treaty and the obligation to maintain neutrality are sufficiently clear, stating that Austria remains neutral and does not enter into any commitment which would violate its status of neutrality. In this case, I would compare its situation with that of Switzerland. The Swiss have so far strictly rejected membership in the EC. As for Austria's internal situation, it is not my business. I do not want to interfere.

[Wolf] What would the Soviet Union do if Austria becomes an EC member nonetheless?

[Pustogarov] Well, the Soviet Union is one of the four protective powers. I think that when the Soviet Union sees that international agreements are violated in this case, it will have to take measures. How, in what form, and on what level that will be done, I cannot predict.

[Wolf] But the Red Army will not march into Vienna.

[Pustogarov] No, that is out of the question. As far as I understand Comrade Gorbachev and our entire concept, all conflicts—there will also be conflicts in the future, because there is no such thing as a society or humanity without conflicts—will be solved in a peaceful way and by political means.

Questions on National Living Standards Answered

PM0710092488 Moscow TRUD in Russian
5 Oct 88 pp 1-2

["Readers' Interview" with Professor N.M. Rimashevskaya, director of the Institute of Socioeconomic Problems of the Population: "Working Better in Order To Live Better"—interview consists of Rimashevskaya's replies to questions presented by V. Golovachev from a number of readers' letters; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] On 10 August TRUD carried an announcement on its front page: We invited everyone wishing to do so to submit questions about living standards to a well-known specialist in this sphere—Professor N.M. Rimashevskaya, director of the Institute of Socioeconomic Problems of the Population. Why specifically living standards? Because this topic is what comes up most frequently in readers' letters. After our request, we received many questions on specific aspects of this vital problem. So today we are publishing the first interview under the new rubric, "Readers' Interview."

[Rimashevskaya] First of all I would like to say that it was only after the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum that we began to talk publicly, openly, and honestly about living standards in our country. Research was done before then, but for some reason it was considered unsuitable to talk about it. Perhaps because stagnation trends in the economy, which were clearly manifested in the late seventies and early eighties, by no means promoted an improvement in living standards. Today we are experiencing pressure from the weight of problems that accumulated at that time. They led to the need for restructuring and made us embark on the radical reform and normalization of the economy. Without this, an improvement in living standards is impossible. But in order to move forward, you need to know what the starting point is, and have a clear idea of the legacy we inherited from the recent past.

[Letter from Yu. Breus, engineer, Kaliningrad, Moscow Oblast] "Meanwhile (during the stagnation period, under Brezhnev) the people's living standard fell to one of the lowest among the industrially developed states...." "Under Stalin the people lived well and there was always plenty...." These opinions are drawn from two recently published items. Do you agree with these assessments? Is the living standard falling in our country?

[Rimashevskaya] First it is necessary to define what you mean by "industrially developed states." And, most importantly, what are the criteria by which we will be assessing living standards? I have already had occasion to say, in TRUD and elsewhere, that there is no such thing as a universal "synthetic" indicator enabling us objectively to compare living standards in different countries, taking all the factors together. After all, you have to take into account not only goods and services, but all aspects of the housing problem (the cost of housing, availability, comfort, size), payments from social consumption funds, the state's foreign debt, and many more items on which people's living conditions depend. And that includes the level of people's requirements. It may seem strage, but there is a direct connection: The higher these requirements, the higher the level of the society's development. If, for instance, a person has to economize on essentials so as to have enough to buy food and basic goods, he never gives a thought to, say, a home computer, and therefore he does not exert pressure, so to speak, on industry, which is therefore in no hurry to produce these computers. On the other hand, a person like that is a worker with different, lower opportunities.

It is impossible in practice to "combine" the large number of factors characterizing living standards in a single indicator. How, in comparing different countries, can you take into account the tragedy of the unemployed and homeless, or the enormous cost of housing, medical services, and education? Averages level everything out. The unemployed person and the millionaire, if you average them out, live quite well....

Nonetheless, there are various methods for defining living standards, with differing degrees of compromise and approximation. You can, for instance, take as a basis for your calculations the share of national income per head of population (the higher this share is, the better). Or the proportion of the family budget that is spent on food—the lower this is (provided that the necessary food products exist in the stores), the higher the population's living standard is deemed to be. Other criteria are also used.

So if you are guided by these general arithmetical averages and the existing methods, our country lags behind a number of countries—both capitalist and socialist—in terms of living standards. But as for being one of the lowest.... It all depends on which industrially developed countries you have in mind. If you take, say, Sweden, the United States, Japan, the FRG, France, Britain, or, for instance, the GDR and Czechoslovakia, they are indeed ahead of us in many indicators in terms of living standard.

Now the statement that "under Stalin the people lived well." That is a myth that only very naive people can believe. The average monthly wage for workers and employees was R33 in 1940, and R48 in 1946. Even in the early fifties it was only R16 for kolkhoz members. The mass of people lived in poverty. True, there was caviar in the stores—but who could buy it? Meat consumption per head of population in 1950 was only 26 kg—not much more than two-fifths of what it is today. In the atmosphere of lawlessness and repressions people learned to be satisfied with little, and their range of requirements was narrowed artificially (by means of propaganda and terror). This had pernicious, far-reaching consequences, whose echoes we are still feeling to this day.

[Letter from bookkeeper V. Spiridinova, Sverdlovsk] When our newspapers talk about living standards in the country, they often try to take a wide range of indicators. But what if you look at material consumption alone? How does our country look in comparison with, say, other socialist countries or the United States?

[Rimashevskaya] In order to avoid confusion and "connotations," various terms are used: standard, way, quality, style of life. Standard of living mainly means the conditions of satisfaction of people's multifaceted requirements.

Of course, the volume and quality of consumer benefits, that is, goods and services, are very important components, on which the standard of living largely depends. In this parameter we are still significantly behind the United States in terms of the level of material consumption.

Not infrequently, in order to compare the material well-being of families in different countries, the indicator of ownership of consumer durables is used. This is not, of course, an exhaustive indication, but it is fairly vivid and graphic. How does it turn out if you compare our country, for instance, with certain other socialist countries? In 1986 (we do not yet have any more recent statistics) in terms of cars per 1,000 people, the USSR (with 47 per 1,000) was behind the GDR (198), the CSSR (175), Hungary (141), Bulgaria (121), and Poland (72). For television sets, the figures are: GDR—465, CSSR—433, Hungary—421, Poland—339, Bulgaria—300, USSR—299.... There is also a very marked gulf in terms of refrigerators (in the GDR, for instance, there are twice as many per 1,000 people) and washing machines (the CSSR has 150 percent more).

These figures, I repeat, do not of course fully characterize the correlations in living standards.

[Letter from T. Protsenko, Kiev] Heavy industry has always had priority in our country. That was understandable while the foundations of the economy were being laid. But we have arrived at a situation where it has become a great problem to buy many things in the stores (suits, shoes, television sets...). Is it perhaps time to increase the consumption fund in the national income?

[Rimashevskaya] It is true that in the majority of developed countries this fund within the national income is at a higher level than ours. My opinion is that in the interests of Soviet people and the normalization of the economy this fund should be increased to 80 or perhaps even 85 percent (at present it is 75-77 percent). If we give up the large-scale "prestige" construction projects for which there is no apparent urgent necessity, stop squandering metal, construction materials, and other resources on a large scale, and put an end to shoddy work and poor quality output, this structural restructuring, far from weakening heavy industry, will actually help to resolve many of our economic problems.

Much is already being done in this respect. A course has been set to drastically increase the output of consumer goods. For instance, for 1989 it is planned to develop group "B" industry more than twice as rapidly as group "A." This has never before happened in our industry. This encouraging trend requires further development and deepening.

But it is not only a question of structural restructuring. One of the main conditions for improving living standards and increasing the commodity supply is the growth of labor productivity. Here we are markedly behind

many of the industrially developed states. As an example, let me cite some comparisons with the socialist countries. The yield of grain and pulse crops in the GDR is 45.8 quintals per hectare, in the CSSR it is 42, in Hungary 48.1, in Bulgaria 39.1, and in the USSR 18 (1986 figures). You see the difference: Their yield is 2-2.5 times ours.

Or take potatoes. Does the GDR really have much better conditions for growing potatoes than we do? Yet the yield there is 50 percent higher. To say nothing of losses during transportation and storage, which are minimal in the GDR. Yet ours are very great.

And many such instances could be cited. Here a relationship can be seen: How we work determines how we live.

[Letter from V. Tonkikh, nurse, Voronezh] Will economic accountability lead to the further stratification of our society? Incidentally, how far do the wages of low-paid and high-paid workers differ? After all, this is not how it should be either—one person receives R130 a month, another R1,000....

[Rimashevskaya] This question is often asked today. It is true that a watchman, for instance, might have a salary of R90, while a driller in a leading Surgut team has 1,000. Quoting these figures, I find myself asking: What is so terrible about that? After all, we have the principle: To each according to his labor. I see the danger not in different wages, but somewhere else—in leveling, when the differences in wages are smoothed out and leveled, when the specific labor contribution is not taken into account, and when the administration's main concern is not to offend anyone and to dole out fair shares for all. It is quite clear that there should be no restrictions on wages. But it is also obvious that wages must really be earned. As of today this task is not being fully satisfied. The growth in wages is outstripping the growth in labor productivity.

It transpires that for a worker, especially a skilled worker, it is not advantageous to work well, still less to step up his efforts. This is a complex problem that requires in-depth research and resolution. Today we can clearly see the result of the decline in labor activeness that was observed in the late seventies and early eighties.

[Letter from V. Pakhonov, pensioner, Leningrad] Difficulties in the economy have affected pensioners worst of all. Prices are rising, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to live on a pension. Can that be right?

[Rimashevskaya] One has to agree. The situation of many pensioners has become difficult. The growth in average retail prices (because of the disappearance of cheap goods and for other reasons) is, according to many scientists' estimates, 2-4 percent a year. Thus, since 1956, when the Law on Pensions was adopted, the purchasing power of the pension has fallen by between one-third and one-half. And although changes and amendments to the law have been adopted, they have not played a substantial part. The relationship of the average pension to average wages was 0.63 in 1956, and now it is 0.42, which means it has fallen by one-third. Let me observe that the majority of poorly-off families (with an income of between R50 and R75 per person) are pensioners' families.

A new draft Law on Pensions is now in preparation. According to preliminary estimates, the increase in pensions will require approximately R15 billion. However difficult it may be to seek such resources in our budget, which is already strained—in the words of the USSR minister of finance, a "shortage" budget—this must certainly be done. A society's humanity is judged first and foremost by how it treats children and old people.

[Letter from V. Grishchenko, freight workers' team leader, Omsk] What is the minimum living wage in our country today?

[Rimashevskaya] There are various methods of calculating this, and accordingly different estimates. According to our research, the poverty line [porog maloobespechennosti] has risen from R50 to R75, while the low pay threshold [porog nizkooplachivayemosti] has risen from R80 to R100. This means that today, in our view, those who have an income of R75 per person or less should be regarded as badly off, while those receiving less than R100 should be regarded as low-paid. At the moment it is officially reckoned that the minimum living wage is R50 per person per month.

[Letter from V. Komrakova, bookkeeper, Lvov] A discussion of living standards would be incomplete if it did not touch on the problems of infant mortality and life expectancy....

[Rimashevskaya] That is true. Unfortunately, infant mortality in our country is still relatively high. In 1986 the number of deaths in the 1st year of life per 1,000 births was 25.4 in the USSR (incidentally, until recently these figures were not published). For comparison: In the GDR it is 9.2, in the CSSR 13.9, in Bulgaria 14.6, in Hungary 19, and in Cuba 13.6.

In terms of the average life expectancy of the population (69.6 years in 1986), we are behind many countries—both capitalist and socialist. The shortcomings of our health care system and other social as well as economic factors have played a part here. Vigorous measures are now being taken to rectify the situation. The first positive shifts, which occurred last year, indicate that these measures are already producing results. The implementation of the course toward a strong social policy will make it possible to ensure marked progress in this very important area.

[Letter from G. Sosedov, Zarubino, Khasanskiy Rayon, Khabarovsk Kray] I live in an urban-type fishing settlement, in a wooden barrack. We also have five-story

blocks where the apartments have bathrooms and all conveniences. This is what I cannot agree with: In the modern apartment blocks and in the barracks, the rent per square meter of housing is the same. Can that be right?

[Rimashevskaya] No, of course it is not right. In my view this situation is absolutely abnormal. Today housing differs greatly in quality. One-fourth of families have apartments (individual or communal) with all the conveniences. And one-half of families have housing where there is no main water supply or sewerage. Naturally, apartment rents must take into account the quality of housing, without fail. And not only whether there is a bathroom, but also the materials from which the house is built (a brick or panel building), the location, whether the rooms are separate or adjoining, and so forth.

A significant increase in the pace of housing construction is now in progress. But in order to provide every family with an individual apartment by the year 2000, it is necessary not only to increase the scale of construction, but also to improve housing allocation. We should radically improve the system of housing exchange and set up the necessary exchange stock. It is very important to resettle people promptly—at present, rooms and apartments are sometimes empty for many months, or even years. Of course, you cannot find very many people today who are eager to live in a communal apartment. But incidentally, there is no need for this anyway. Given an enterprising approach by the ispolkoms, it is possible, making use of the exchange stock, to find options from which everyone will gain, and families will receive individual apartments. At present the empty rooms and apartments cause the country an annual loss on the order of R12 million. How many families could have celebrated a housewarming!...

To conclude the discussion, I wish to stress again: Our living standard depends on us. How we work—building houses, sowing grain, and producing goods—will determine how we live. Today, in my view, the most important thing is to put an end to indifference, lethargy, and inertia. That is the purpose of economic accountability, the contract system, and self-management. That is why restructuring is truly everyone's affair, because we all want to live better and make the country richer and mightier. And no one should be indifferent to this. [Rimashevskaya ends]

The readers' interests were represented by V. Golovachev.

From the Editorial Office [subhead]

Readers' letters have proposed holding the next interview with Academician Leonid Ivanovich Abalkin, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Economics Institute. This proposal has been adopted. The topic of discussion: "The experience of the first steps of economic reform and its prospects." So we await your letters with your questions.

Television Culture, 'Responsibility' Discussed

PM0710091588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
6 Oct 88 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Television and the Viewer—How Their Mutual Relations Are Taking Shape Today"]

[Text] Sociologists attest that every evening an audience of 140-160 million gathers in front of the television screens. What a gigantic figure, and how hard it is to imagine it! What responsibility rests in this connection on every broadcast, what high demands television viewers rightly make on each minute of transmission over the air!

Every day television, newspaper, and journal editorial offices receive thousands and thousands of letters commenting on premieres on the "blue screen," analyzing favorite programs, and suggesting that new cycles and rubrics be opened. This attests to the increasing interest and trust in the words heard from the screen, and to the growth of television's influence and prestige.

A large proportion of the mail from viewers addressed to programs like "View," "Position," "Rural Hour," "Our Duties," and others today consists of letters of a social nature, continuing the talk conducted from the lofty rostrum of the 19th all-union party conference. The "Beacon of Restructuring" program alone receives about 20,000 letters and telegrams every month—an avalanche of human concern, pain, and hope. These calls suggest topics and specific destinations for working trips for television journalists, and have become a source for wonderful new productions, although to be fair it should be noted that "Beacon," like any lively, topical program, still has to seek ways of renewing itself and new forms of contact with its audience.

Today viewers' voices are heard not only in letters and telegrams addressed to television; recently they have been heard more and more frequently directly from the screen, in so-called "live" broadcasts recorded on the streets, in plant shops, in student lecture halls, in workers' hostels, and in newly settled apartments. That is how it should be, for television can become a unique laboratory for collective experience, brought every day "from Moscow to the most remote outskirts." It is true that it must be admitted that, so far, it is not all-union but local broadcasting which is setting the tone in programs of this kind. The Leningrad "Public Opinion" program and the capital channel programs "Good Evening, Moscow!" and "Dialogue" are, as a rule, unedited linkups with representatives of various strata of society for a discussion of the problems of politics, the economy, ecology, and urgent social questions.

Just as the will of the masses should be considered in political and state affairs, so the opinions and assessments of viewers should correct the work of television, because the entire country is its audience. And who knows better than the people of the people's problems and pains and the tasks on the agenda? That is why we must take a close look at editorial mail devoted to the work of television.

Our newspaper's readers (they are also television viewers) write with concern to the editorial office about how leading experience is still not sufficiently propagandized on television, and if such programs do appear they are, as a rule, made less inventively and vividly than topics of critical bent. Seeking out the new shoots, and making them the property of the entire country—that is the task which is being promoted to the front line of television work today. A special role here should be assigned to the "Vremya" program which, unfortunately, often uses ordinary, old words to talk about what is new and out of the ordinary. Is it not for this reason that the program's prestige has been shaken to a certain extent in the eyes of viewers today?

Television viewers believe that the screen should pay more attention to questions of our party's nationalities policy at the present stage. The events in Nagorno-Karabakh, writes V. Galkin from Petrozavodsk, show how many unresolved problems, how many illnesses driven inward, are concealed by the formal approach toward the solution of the nationalities question, an approach which has been practiced for many years. Readers note the need to describe more frequently on the television screen the affairs and concerns, urgent problems, traditions, customs, and cultures of different nations and ethnic groups, and to cite specific examples of the indissoluble fraternity of our peoples, gained through suffering over the entire course of the history of the Land of the Soviets. In this connection the proposal voiced in a number of letters seems interesting and important: turning the second all-union channel into a unique channel of inter-nation communication, which would present extensively and vividly the best programs from republican and local television studios.

The standard and nature of international information still generate many questions and a sense of dissatisfaction among viewers, although advances are to be seen in this direction. In particular, "The World Today" programs have become fuller and more varied. The television linkups which have now entered into practice help us to acquire a better knowledge of the concerns and way of life of ordinary people from Sofia and Seattle, Warsaw and Munich, but it cannot be said that the customary ideological cliches have been completely eliminated from the screen. There is rarely any mention of the interesting experience accumulated by the socialist community countries and there is little comparative information on the television screen about different aspects of life in our country and in the developed capitalist states.

Readers G. Tkachuk from Kharkov and N. Semodurov from Vilnius write about how polemic ardor, emotional upheavals, and overt cheating and inaccuracies which those taking part in broadcasts often allow in the television studio should meet with a subtle and intelligent commentary from the presenter. To a certain extent this affects the program "View"—the unconditional charm of the studio "masters" is not always backed up by their competence, and as a result even the most subjective statements by the guests are sometimes presented as the ultimate truth. Here it is high time for a dialogue to be started. But while doing everything to welcome debates, Muscovite T. Krylatova notes, we should not at the same time turn the screen into a venue for settling accounts and displaying personal or group ambitions. Yet unfortunately central television also offers examples of this kind.

One leitmotif of the editorial mail is talk about the standard of our own and foreign light entertainment, reflected in the "mirror" of the television screen. Readers complain of the musical uniformity of many collectives, the primitive level of poetic texts, and the provocative costumes of the performers. Does the legitimate desire to acquaint viewers with a new name on the musical horizon always comply with the ideological and esthetic standard of his repertoire and musical and general culture?—this question resounds keenly in the letter from I. Yeliseyev from Rostov-na-Donu. The correlation between the broadcast classic music, in which interest has intensified recently, and popular rhythms born of our time should be more balanced and thoughtful. I. Kulik from Dnepropetrovsk mentions this.

The advice and critical comments in PRAVDA's mail are generated by the desire to see television more mobile, livelier, more profound, and actively involved in the process of society's spiritual renewal. We cannot fail to notice that in the past few years and even months the television screen has substantially altered in appearance. But the successful discoveries and inventions which pleased us yesterday should not become a factor delaying new quests. Attention toward life, toward the changes taking place in the country, active involvement in unresolved problems, and reliance on the masses' living creation—all this will help to raise mutual relations between television and viewers to a new spiritual height.

Problems Facing Crime Fighters Outlined

PM0910180788 Moscow TRUD in Russian 5 Oct 88 p 4

[Interview with Militia Lieutenant General V. Pankin, chief of the USSR MVD Criminal Investigation Main Administration, by V. Belykh: "Daily Life in Criminal Investigation; '...Safeguarding Revolutionary Order'"—date, place not given; first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] On 5 October 1918, 70 years ago, the Collegium of the RSFSR People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs approved the "Statute on Organizing Criminal Investigation," which was set up "...to safeguard revolutionary

order by covertly investigating offenses of a criminal nature and combating gangsterism." Our correspondent talks with Militia Lieutenant General V. Pankin, chief of the USSR MVD Criminal Investigation Main Administration.

[Belykh] Vyacheslav Kirillovich, the stagnation period severely weakened law and order in our country, engendering arbitrary behavior, lawlessness, and corruption which even penetrated the higher MVD echelons—suffice it to recall the cases of Shchelokov and Churbanov.... In Uzbekistan, Khabarovsk Kray, and Volgograd Oblast some personnel working in the organs for maintaining law and order struck deals with criminal elements. To what degree did all these goings-on affect criminal investigation?

[Pankin] The formal-bureaucratic methods of work actually started to prevail in our times. Many crimes were covered up, particularly theft, and the guilty parties managed to escape liability. Often the actions of operational personnel were directed not at uncovering crime but at achieving formal indicators creating the appearance that all was well. This approach led many specialists and professionals to leave criminal investigation. The decision to eliminate the category of supervisors for particularly important cases was ill-considered. Deception, show, and an oversimplified approach to operations and investigative activity were typical. All this was undoubtedly a serious blow to our prestige.

On the whole, though, personal gain is not a typical motive for breaches committed by criminal investigation personnel.

Today the composition of our service has been increased by approximately one-third. It should not be thought, though, that everyone with whom we recently had to part company violated socialist legality. In fact, when officials were finally assessed, with reference not to fine words but to real deeds, many accusations turned out to be groundless.

Now, as a result of measures taken in our subdivisions, instances of the falsification of evidence, beatings, and unwarranted refusals to institute criminal proceedings have declined in number....

[Belykh] But it is probably difficult to reverse as quickly a certain suspicion on the part of the population which has taken shape in recent decades toward MVD personnel?

[Pankin] Yes, we often experience the most unexpected effects from the democratization and glasnost processes. So today our statistics are no longer a secret. There is nothing for us to hide, especially as the crime level in our country is much lower than in the United States, Britain, or France.... But people already familiar with this information are forming the impression that we are today experiencing a kind of explosion of criminal manifestations. For example, we were formerly silent about the fact that drug addiction and prostitution existed. But then this was said openly, and somehow people got the idea that all these phenomena had appeared recently....

[Belykh] However it was, it is difficult to come to terms with the fact that a theft is committed every 40 seconds, and a murder—every 1 and ½ hours. Organized crime is making itself known....

[Pankin] It is incorrect to assess the operational situation according to the number of crimes over a particular period. But if we are talking about this year, then an increase on the order of 8 percent occurred in the area of dangerous crimes, which the criminal investigation department is working to combat. The number of thefts of state and public property, for example, has increased from 59,600 to 68,400, and of personal property from 165,900 to 211,400. Thefts from apartments totaled 72,000—this is 20 percent more than for the same time last year. Here we have a great debt to the population.

All the same, sometimes our attitude is too casual toward our own property: Almost one-third of all apartment thefts are the result of the owners' carelessness.

We are simply unable to solve many problems connected with the growth of various forms of crime without assistance from other departments. Now the theft of spare parts from cars is literally booming. Old and young, production front-rankers and people with multiple convictions, people without education and candidates of science, are involved in theft. How could it be otherwise when it is impossible to get something for one's car legally? In the Far East the price of windshields has reached R1,000. But all our appeals to industry to cut this shortage, even a little, remain unanswered.

Special subdivisions have been set up for an effective struggle against the activity of organized criminal groupings in our system. Highly professional, competent, and experienced operators are being selected to work in them. Where possible, we shall equip the new formations with modern equipment, and their employees' wages will be higher. There are already results: In the last 2 years alone, we have exposed more than 2,500 criminal groups which have committed around 20,000 serious crimes, including murder, theft, and robbery with violence....

[Belykh] I have heard repeatedly from criminal investigation personnel at very different levels that they themselves sometimes have to literally work at the fine edge of the law to successfully detect crimes. And the technical equipment of the operational and investigation service leaves a lot to be desired.

[Pankin] Indeed, many legal questions of criminal investigation activity have not been settled. In our country there is still no law covering operational and investigative activity, and the criminal procedure code only

indicates that the internal affairs organs carry out operational and investigative measures with the aim of exposing criminals. But the absence of professional skills and the inability to gather evidence are sometimes attributable to these generally objective difficulties. Arguments about whether the notorious detection rate should be a criterion of criminal investigation work are also due to this. Of course, the final result can be calculated in different ways: in percentages, in quantity, or in court appearances. But the essence of our work nonetheless will remain as before—to detect as many crimes as possible. There's no getting away from this, and there is no substitute for it.

As far as equipment is concerned, for example, crime-expert subdivisions are quite well-equipped today, whereas the special equipment for operations personnel lags a great deal behind the demands of the day—industry is letting us down. Our department is trying to do something, to improve things as best as we can.

[Belykh] If we are talking about what is still hindering criminal investigation officials, then we cannot ignore the increasing process of excessive paperwork which has also now overwhelmed the internal affairs organs. Are you expecting any changes here?

[Pankin] Of course there is an impossible amount of paperwork. And indeed, a lot of it is due to a lack of basic confidence in our employees. You always need a piece of paper for everything, and you must always account for everything. The actual process of gathering evidence is not possible without paperwork. It is simply essential to turn out documents to cover yourself. Today hundreds of obsolete instructions and orders have been abolished. Work in this direction continues.

[Belykh] A sore point. Recently there have been several reports on crimes using firearms.

[Pankin] Unfortunately, many people have firearms today. There are very many sawed-off shotguns. It is not uncommon that through carelessness weapons from the militia, the Soviet Army, schools, DOSAAF [Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Aviation, and Navy] organizations, arsenals, and paramilitary security subunits fall into criminal hands. There are instances of attacks on our personnel. Recently we detected a dangerous crime in Stavropol Kray when gangsters attacked the rayon internal affairs department, shot the officers on duty, and seized their weapons. By the way, there are also enough "skilled craftsmen" who make pistols and explosives themselves....

[Belykh] New times, new people. Who is coming to work in criminal investigation today?

[Pankin] All professions are represented here now, I think: There are physicians, engineers, and teachers. Many men come to us after doing military service, and from plants. MVD secondary and higher educational establishments train cadres for us. Criminal investigation is no romance. It means a 12-14 hour working day. And sometimes people do not leave work for days. What's to be done? Detection is detection—at times you are talking in terms of hours and minutes. If you are late the criminal will escape liability. The risks are not small.

But despite everything, there are enough people who want to work with us. We do not accept everyone. The ability to uncover crime is also a gift. The ability to choose one true version out of hundreds, to create a whole picture out of a mass of uncoordinated facts and to find one's bearings in a complicated situation, in good time, is by no means inherent in every employee of the internal affairs organs. But talented young people who are dedicated to their work are coming to us. We are relying very much on them.